SECURITY COUNCIL

OFFICIAL RECORDS

FORTY-THIRD YEAR

SUPPLEMENT FOR JANUARY, FEBRUARY AND MARCH 1988

UNITED NATIONS

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NOTE

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The resolutions of the Security Council, numbered in accordance with a system adopted in 1964, are published in yearly volumes of *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council*. The new system, which has been applied retroactively to resolutions adopted before 1 January 1965, became fully operative on that date.

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S/19721	31 March 1988	c	Letter dated 30 March 1988 from the representative of Jordan to the Secretary-General transmitting the text of a resolution on the Iran-Iraq conflict adopted by the Seventeenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held at Amman from 21 to 25 March 1988	Circulated under the double symbol A/43/274-S/19721	
S/19722	31 March 1988	e	Letter dated 30 March 1988 from the representative of Jordan to the Secretary-General transmitting the text of a resolution on the uprising of the Palestinian people in the occupied Arab territories adopted by the Seventeenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers	Circulated under the double symbol A/43/275-S/19722	

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DOCUMENT S/16877/ADD.6

Addendum to the report of the Secretary-General in pursuance of Security Council resolution 552 (1984)

[*Original: English*]
[*26 January 1988*]

ADDENDUM TO ANNEX I

Incidents reported by Governments and by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) from 1 January to 31 December 1987

Date of incident	*Name of vessel*	*Type*	*Tonnage*	*Nationality of owner*	*Flag of registration*	*Location and time of incident*	*Additional information*	*Source of report*
31 December	Iran Sedaghat	Motor vessel	4 870	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Off Kharg Island; at 1900 hours GMT	Attacked on given date, reportedly used as decoy	IMO

DOCUMENT S/18961/ADD.5

Addendum to the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Security Council resolution 591 (1986)

[*Original: English*]
[*2 February 1988*]

ANNEX II

Substantive replies received from States

Addendum

MALTA

[*Original: English*]
[*23 November 1987*]

The Permanent Representative of Malta, on behalf of the Maltese Government, has the honour to convey the following information:

"Malta has complied with paragraphs 1 to 9 of resolution 591 (1986) adopted by the Security Council at its 2723rd meeting. With regard to paragraphs 10 and 11, Malta's size and trade is such that effective monitoring and verifications of transfers of cargo is possible without special regulations and added measures. Malta reaffirms its determination and its belief and will co-operate along with other States in the implementation of the relevant international instruments."

DOCUMENT S/19399

Letter dated 4 January 1988 from the representative of Iraq to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Arabic*]
[*4 January 1988*]

On instructions from my Government and further to our many previous letters, the most recent being that contained in document S/19397, I have the honour to inform you that on 29 December 1987 and 3 January 1988 the aggressor Iranian régime bombarded purely residential areas in the interior of Iraq as follows:

Time	*Place*	*Casualties and damage*
1150 to 1250	Sulaymaniyah: Beymalik residential complex	3 citizens wounded, including 2 children; 1 house destroyed
1030 to 1100	Sulaymaniyah: Beymalik residential complex, in the Qala Diza district	1 woman wounded; damage to 3 houses
1845 to 1900	Sulaymaniyah: Beymalik residential complex	Damage to 3 houses
1555 to 1557	Basra: Zubayr district	Damage to 1 civilian vehicle

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ismat KITTANI
Permanent Representative
of Iraq to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19401*

Letter dated 4 January 1988 from the representative of Thailand to the Secretary-General

[Original: English]
[4 January 1988]

Upon instructions from my Government, and with reference to my letter dated 22 December 1987 [S/19378], I have the honour to transmit to you the English text of the aide-mémoire dated 30 December 1987 of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand, which has already been transmitted to the Laotian side, concerning the incidents along the Thai-Lao border in the vicinity of Romklao village, Chart Trakarn district, Phitsanulok province, and to request that the document be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) M. L. Birabhongse KASEMSRI
Permanent Representative of Thailand
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Aide-mémoire dated 30 December 1987 issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand

1. The border clashes between Thai and Lao troops in the vicinity of Romklao village, Chart Trakarn district, Phitsanulok province, were the result of the incursion into Thai territory by Laotian troops near the boundary between Phitsanulok and Leoi provinces in late May 1987. The Laotian intruders attacked and destroyed tractors belonging to Thai civilians and abducted seven Thai villagers. The Laotian side later dispatched reinforcements into the area. They also planted a large number of land mines and occupied Hill 1428, which lies two kilometres inside Thai territory.

While trying to avoid clashes with the Laotian troops, the Royal Thai Armed Forces issued repeated warnings to the Laotian intruders to halt all provocative actions and withdraw from Hill 1428. The Thai side has expended a great deal of effort in trying to contain the problem by peaceful means. To avoid the escalation of the conflict, the Thai side has exercised full restraint and persisted in bringing out the fact of the Laotian troops' incursion in that particular area. The relevant treaty and the authoritative maps, including that which had been drawn up under duress in the colonial era and that which was recently drawn up and is being used by the Laotians themselves, clearly indicate the correct border demarcation in the area. What is important is the spirit shown by the Thai side in not using this incident to make propaganda against Laos, by observing the understanding reached at Vientiane in 1986 whereby both sides agreed to refrain from trading accusations.

2. The fact that Laos sent troops across the border to occupy Thai territory while turning deaf ears to the repeated warnings and instead accusing Thailand at the various international forums, including the United Nations, of bullying is unreasonable, demonstrating the ill intention which contravenes the wishes of the Thai and Lao peoples for peace and tranquillity. The Royal Thai Government therefore condemns those who harbour ill will towards Thailand and calls on the Government of Laos to immediately cease such provocative actions.

That the Laotian Government has dispatched troops to seize Thai territory and simultaneously proposed to hold talks to resolve the problem is unacceptable to Thailand. If the Laotian side is sincere in finding a solution to the problem, the way to answer the wishes of both sides is for Laotian troops to cease military operations and withdraw immediately from Thai territory.

3. The amicable relationship between Thailand and Laos is in the long run beneficial to the peoples of both countries. The Royal Thai Government has never refused to negotiate or discuss with the Laotian side and has earnestly endeavoured to ensure success in the previous talks with substantive results. It was unfortunate that, in spite of the understanding reached in Vientiane in November 1986 that both sides would refrain from trading accusations and attacks through the media, the previous two rounds of high-level meetings between the Thai and Laotian officials in November 1986 and March 1987 should have been repeatedly undermined and exploited by the Laotian side for propaganda purposes.

Nevertheless, the Thai side would be happy to hold substantive talks with Laos, but not just for the sake of having such negotiations and allowing the further worsening of the relationship between the two countries. Hence the Thai side has proposed the convening of high-level meetings in the framework which should ensure the success of such talks. It is unfortunate that the Laotian side should have rejected such constructive proposal which stems from Thailand's foregoing earnest intentions. The Thai side repeats its call to the Government of Laos to re-examine carefully the constructive Thai proposal in consideration of the wish of the Laotian people to live in peace and harmony with their Thailand brothers.

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/76-S/19401.

DOCUMENT S/19402

Letter dated 4 January 1988 from the representative of Jordan to the President of the Security Council

[Original: English]
[4 January 1988]

I have the honour, in my capacity as Chairman of the Group of Arab States for the month of January, to request an immediate meeting of the Security Council to address the situation in the occupied Palestinian and other Arab territories.

(*Signed*) Abdullah SALAH
Permanent Representative of Jordan
to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19405*

Letter dated 5 January 1988 from the Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*5 January 1988*]

In my capacity as Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, I wish once again to draw your urgent attention to the aggravation of the situation in the occupied territories, caused by Israel's decision to expel Palestinian leaders and by the acts of violence by Israeli troops against the Palestinian population in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Since the letter of 29 December 1987 from the Acting Chairman of the Committee [*S/19394*], the situation has continued to deteriorate in the occupied territories. It was reported by *The New York Times* of 4 and 5 January 1988 that Israeli military authorities have decided to expel nine Palestinians, five from the West Bank and four from the Gaza Strip, accusing them of being the "chief instigators" of the uprising in the territories. According to the newspaper, "there was no way to independently confirm the army's accusations".

The army has identified the nine Palestinians as Furayi Ahmad Khayri, aged 39, vice-chairman of the Palestinian engineers' union in the Gaza Strip; Adil Nafa Hamad, aged 27, from the Kalandia refugee camp in the West Bank; Husam Uthman Mohammed Hadar, aged 26, of the Balata refugee camp near Nablus; Bashir Ahmad Khayri, a 45-year-old lawyer from Ramallah; Jamal Mohammed Jabara, aged 28, from the Qalqilya refugee camp in the West Bank; Mohammed Abu Samara, aged 26, a student at the Islamic University of Gaza; Khalil Kuka, a 39-year-old teacher in Gaza and a leader of a local religious organization; Hasan Ghanim Abu Shakra, aged 37, a prominent religious leader from Khan Younis in the Gaza Strip; and Jibril Mahmud Rajub, aged 34, a journalist from the West Bank village of Dura and the author of a book on conditions in Israeli gaols.

The nine have been on a protest hunger strike in their respective prisons, where they will remain until a decision is taken on their appeal against the expulsion orders. More than 1,000 Palestinians rounded up during the past month also remain gaoled, and trials on incitement charges are proceeding in the military courts.

In further violent incidents on 3 January 1988, as reported by *The New York Times* of 4 January, an Israeli soldier shot to death a 25-year-old Palestinian woman while she was hanging laundry in her yard in the village of Al-Ram north of Jerusalem. The killing occurred when Israeli soldiers using live ammunition were chasing stone-throwing Palestinian boys in the streets of the village.

UPI reported on 5 January that Israeli soldiers opened fire on a crowd of rock-throwing Palestinians in Khan Younis, killing at least one man and wounding eight others. A report by the Palestinian Press Service that a second man was also killed could not be immediately confirmed. A curfew was imposed on Khan Younis following the shooting.

The Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People wishes to convey its growing concern at the policies and practices of Israel in the occupied territories, particularly the killing of unarmed civilians and the deportation of persons, which are in clear violation of the human rights of the Palestinian people, of United Nations resolutions and of the Fourth Geneva Convention of 12 August 1949.[1] The Committee wishes to recall that Security Council resolution 605 (1987) of 22 December 1987 called once again upon Israel, the occupying Power, to abide immediately and scrupulously by that Convention and to desist forthwith from such policies and practices.

The Committee appeals to you to take all possible measures for ensuring the safety and protection of the Palestinian civilians under Israeli occupation and for preventing any deportations. The Committee further appeals to you to intensify your efforts towards the convening of the International Peace Conference on the Middle East, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 38/58 C.

I should be grateful if you would arrange for the text of this letter to be circulated as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Massamba SARRÉ
Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/77-S/19405.

DOCUMENT S/19406*

Letter dated 5 January 1988 from the representative of Lebanon to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Arabic*]
[*6 January 1988*]

On instructions from my Government and further to my earlier letters, I regret to inform you that on 2 January Israel committed a large-scale act of aggression directed against a number of sectors, as indicated below.

On Saturday, 2 January, in the evening, the Israeli air force bombed some blocks of flats near Sidon. The blocks of flats in question were destroyed, and the seven members of one Palestinian family lost their lives when they were buried under the rubble.

At the same time as that attack, Israeli helicopters based on an Israeli naval unit off the Lebanon coast fired rockets at six houses in the villages of Barja and Jieh, which are located 80 kilometres from the Israeli border. The houses in question were destroyed and many civilians were killed,

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/79-S/19406.

including the 12 members of two Lebanese families, chiefly women and children.

So far this Israeli act of aggression has thus resulted in a total of 26 deaths, dozens of wounded and substantial material damage. Through this night-time attack, Israel sought to bring about the greatest number of casualties possible, under the usual pretext of aiming at Palestinian resistance bases in Lebanon. As usual once again, most of the casualties resulting from this attack happened to be innocent civilians, women and children—both Lebanese nationals and Palestinian refugees in Lebanon.

The Lebanese Government energetically condemns the repeated Israeli acts of aggression directed against the sovereignty, integrity and security of Lebanon and wishes to draw attention to the Israeli authorities' growing disregard both for the principles of international law and the natural right of all individuals to live in their home in peace and security. Both the Lebanese and those who have taken refuge in Lebanon, fleeing from the Israeli oppressor, have become nothing but targets for the various types of weapons that the Israeli army has at its disposal. This situation cannot but continue as long as the international community carries on turning a blind eye to Israeli policy, which violates all legal principles and all humanitarian values and has already brought innumerable disasters and untold suffering upon the Middle East as a whole and on Lebanon in particular.

In these circumstances, the Lebanese Government reserves the right to request that the Security Council should be convened so that it should assume its responsibilities with regard to the dangerous situation resulting from Israel's repeated acts of aggression.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Rachid FAKHOURY
Permanent Representative of Lebanon
to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19407*

Letter dated 6 January 1988 from the representative of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to the Secretary-General

[*Original: French*]
[*6 January 1988*]

At the request of the Government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, I have the honour to transmit to you the message dated 22 December 1987 addressed to you by Mr. Hun Sen, President of the Council of Ministers of that country.

I should be grateful if you would arrange for the text of this message to be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Kithong VONGSAY
Permanent Representative of
the Lao People's Democratic Republic
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Message dated 22 December 1987 from Mr. Hun Sen to the Secretary-General

Although I am aware that you are following closely the efforts made to find a negotiated, political solution to the problem of Kampuchea and also the developments of recent days, I none the less feel it my duty to inform you and the international community of the following views of the Government and people of the People's Republic of Kampuchea.

The people and Government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, like international public opinion, welcome the fact that, despite numerous obstacles, Prince Norodom Sihanouk and myself were able to meet at Fère-en-Tardenois from 2 to 4 December 1987. What is even more important is that, at the end of our talks, we managed to sign a joint communiqué which provides a sound basis for future meetings. The four-point joint communiqué is a prelude to a just and realistic solution designed to put an end to the present bitter war and to restore peace to Kampuchea and South-East Asia. The agreement reached between the Prince and myself is in keeping with the desire for peace of all sectors of the Kampuchean population, which has suffered so much for so long.

Since I am committed to fulfilling the ardent wishes of the entire Kampuchean people—wishes shared by all the peoples of the world—to see a peaceful solution to the Kampuchean problem and a return to peace and stability in South-East Asia, I believe that the four-point joint communiqué issued at Fère-en-Tardenois must be maintained in its entirety.

I should like to assure you that the People's Republic of Kampuchea is committed to ensuring that this historic joint communiqué becomes a reality. I am ready to take part in bilateral meetings or to sit down together with all the other parties, pursuant to the provisions of the joint communiqué according to which the problem of Kampuchea should be settled politically and by the Kampuchean people themselves, on the basis of national reconciliation and the building of a peaceful, independent, democratic, neutral and non-aligned Kampuchea.

I am convinced that all patriotic Kampucheans with a sense of responsibility for their nation's future cannot remain indifferent and allow the Khmer nation to perish in a war to the death, as is happening now, just because a group of individuals are persisting in their egoism or in their crimes of genocide. History will not fail to record the attitudes of all parties to the future of the Khmer nation.

In my desire to put a speedy, peaceful end to the conflict in Kampuchea and to bring about full national reconciliation in the highest interests of the Kampuchean nation, I should like to appeal to you and, through you, to all Governments members of the United Nations to use your good offices to persuade the two other Kampuchean parties to the conflict to sit down with us at the negotiating table and help in the task of restoring peace and national reconciliation as soon as possible. I hope that all the parties concerned, prompted by their sense of responsibility towards their nation, will agree to participate in the negotiations, which will broaden the prospects for a solution to the Kampuchean problem in the interests of the Kampuchean people and of peace in the region.

I should be grateful if you would arrange for this text to be circulated as an official document of the current session of the General Assembly.

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/80-S/19407.

DOCUMENT S/19409

Letter dated 6 January 1988 from the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Secretary-General

[Original: English]
[7 January 1988]

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to enclose herewith the text of three notes dated 27 December 1987 from the Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran addressed to the Foreign Ministry of the State of Kuwait concerning the use of Kuwaiti airspace by Iraqi fighter planes.

It would be highly appreciated if this letter and its annexes were circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mahmoud Sadat MADARSHAHI
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission of
the Islamic Republic of Iran
to the United Nations

ANNEX 1

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the State of Kuwait and has the honour to bring the following to the latter's attention.

According to information received from pertinent authorities of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, on 18 September 1987, between 0507 and 0522 hours, an Iraqi Mirage fighter jet, which had been hit by the ground-to-air anti-aircraft defence of Farsi Island, had an emergency landing in the Southern Boubian Island. It departed from Boubian Island on 20 September between 0841 and 0854 hours after contacting Kuwaiti radar.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran once again strongly protests such co-operation between the State of Kuwait and the aggressor régime of Iraq, which is responsible for the aggression and heinous crimes against Muslim people of Iran as well as crimes against humanity. The State of Kuwait will have to bear full responsibility for the consequences of its above-mentioned actions.

It is evident that mere denial of such co-operation—while high officials of Kuwait have publicly acknowledged them—cannot relieve the Government of Kuwait of the consequences of such co-operation or indifference to it. Therefore, the Islamic Republic of Iran fully expects that, in order to prove its neutrality and quest for peace, the Government of Kuwait should take every measure to prevent further use of its facilities and airspace by Iraq.

The Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Foreign Ministry of the State of Kuwait the assurances of its highest consideration.

Hoping for the victory of the oppressed over the oppressors.

ANNEX 2

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the State of Kuwait and has the honour to bring the following to the latter's attention.

According to information received from pertinent authorities of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

1. On 11 November 1987, at 1220 hours, an aggressor Iraqi plane travelling at the speed of 1,200 miles per hour and at the altitude of 60,000 ft. entered the airspace of the Islamic Republic of Iran, violating the airspace of the Bushehr-Gonaveh region and Behbahan. It departed from the Islamic Republic of Iran at 1221 hours and from the position of 29°46′ N and 48°17′ E entered the airspace of Kuwait and departed from it from the position of 30°03′ N and 47°55′ E and disappeared into the Iraqi airspace at 1250 hours.

2. On 11 November, at 1208 hours, six aggressor Iraqi planes travelling at the speed of 420 miles per hour and at the altitude of 7,000 ft. entered the airspace of the Islamic Republic of Iran from the position of 29°30′ N and 49°20′ E, violating the airspace of Behbahan. At 1217 hours, they entered the airspace of Kuwait from the position of 29°20′ N and 48°06′ E.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran once again strongly protests such co-operation between the State of Kuwait and the aggressor régime of Iraq, which is responsible for the aggression and heinous crimes against Muslim people of Iran as well as crimes against humanity. The State of Kuwait will have to bear full responsibility for the consequences of its above-mentioned actions.

It is evident that mere denial of such co-operation—while high officials of Kuwait have publicly acknowledged them—cannot relieve the Government of Kuwait of the consequences of such co-operation or indifference to it. Therefore, the Islamic Republic of Iran fully expects that, in order to prove its neutrality and quest for peace, the Government of Kuwait should take every measure to prevent further use of its facilities and airspace by Iraq.

The Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Foreign Ministry of the State of Kuwait the assurances of its highest consideration.

Hoping for the victory of the oppressed over the oppressors.

ANNEX 3

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the State of Kuwait and has the honour to bring the following to the latter's attention.

According to information received from pertinent authorities of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran,

1. On 28 October 1987, at 1235 hours, an Iraqi MiG 25 travelling at the speed of 1,200 miles per hour and at the altitude of 57,000-70,000 ft. entered Kuwaiti airspace from Iraq at the position of 29°30′ N and 48°00′ E and at 1241 hours on that day entered Iranian airspace from the position of 28°17′ N and 50°00′ E, violating the airspace of the Kangan region and Taheri Port, and flew to the vicinity of Lavan Island. It departed from the Islamic Republic of Iran at 1255 hours and entered Kuwait from the position of 29°58′ N and 48°00′ E and fled to Iraq at 1317 hours, entering it from the position of 30°00′ N and 47°57′ E.

2. On 17 November, at 1136 hours, an aggressor Iraqi plane travelling at the speed of 1,200 miles per hour and at the altitude of 70,000 ft. entered Iranian airspace from the position of 30°05′ N and 48°25′ E, violating the airspace of the vicinity of Kharg Island and 10 miles east of Farsi Island. It departed from the Islamic Republic of Iran at 1148 hours and from the position of 29°35′ N and 48°15′ E entered Kuwait and fled through that country.

3. On 17 November, at 1258 hours, an aggressor Iraqi plane travelling at the speed of 1,200 miles per hour and at the altitude of 70,000 ft. entered the airspace of the Islamic Republic of Iran from the position of 32°45′ N and 46°50′ E, violating the airspace of the vicinity of Seyed, Saleh, the Port of Imam and the Nowrooz oil platform. It departed from the Islamic Republic of Iran at 1309 hours and entered Kuwait from the position of 29°45′ N and 48°25′ E and fled to Iraq, entering it from Kuwait at the position of 29°55′ N and 47°07′ E.

4. On 17 November, at 1354 hours, an aggressor Iraqi plane travelling at the speed of 1,100 miles per hour and at the altitude of 65,000 ft. entered the airspace of the Islamic Republic of Iran from the position of 30°50′ N and 48°02′ E, violating the airspace of Ahwaz, Omidieh, Behbahan and Gonaveh. It departed from the Islamic Republic of Iran at 1405 hours and entered Kuwait from the position of 29°40′ N and 48°20′ E and exited Kuwait from the position of 30°05′ N and 47°40′ E and thus fled to Iraq.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran once again strongly protests such co-operation between the State of Kuwait and the aggressor régime of Iraq, which is responsible for the aggression and heinous crimes against Muslim people of Iran as well as crimes against humanity. The State of Kuwait will have to bear full responsibility for the consequences of its above-mentioned actions.

It is evident that mere denial of such co-operation—while high officials of Kuwait have publicly acknowledged them—cannot relieve the Government

of Kuwait of the consequences of such co-operation or indifference to it. Therefore, the Islamic Republic of Iran fully expects that, in order to prove its neutrality and quest for peace, the Government of Kuwait should take every measure to prevent further use of its facilities and airspace by Iraq.

The Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Foreign Ministry of the State of Kuwait the assurances of its highest consideration.

Hoping for the victory of the oppressed over the oppressors.

DOCUMENT S/19410

Letter dated 7 January 1988 from the representative of the United States of America to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*7 January 1988*]

I would like to reply to the erroneous allegations and distortions made against the United States in the statement made by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Cuba regarding the disruption of elections in Haiti and circulated as a United Nations document on 10 December 1987 [*S/19332*].

The United States provided 6.6 million dollars, of a 10 million dollar budget, to the Haitian Provisional Electoral Commission (CEP) and repeatedly urged the Haitian Government to assure a safe environment for the elections. In addition, the United States Government made it clear to the Government of Haiti that continued United States aid depended upon the holding of free and fair elections and respect for the results of those elections. Unfortunately, the tragic events of 29 November ended with the suspension of the electoral process and the abrogation of electoral legislation in Haiti.

In response to the events of 29 November, the Government of the United States suspended all military aid to Haiti, with the exception of funds for anti-narcotics co-operation, and all economic aid routed through the Government of Haiti, approximately three quarters of our 100 million dollar programme for fiscal year 1987. Our action in cutting off this assistance is a clear signal of our disapproval of the disruption of elections. The remaining 25-30 million dollars of our economic assistance will go to the Haitian people through non-governmental organizations/private voluntary organizations. The United States Government has publicly condemned the senseless acts of violence perpetrated against the Haitian people and reaffirmed our commitment to democratic transition in Haiti.

The United States has also publicly reaffirmed its support for the Haitian people in their efforts to secure a democratic political system through free and fair elections.

The Government of Cuba is well known for denying even the most fundamental principles of self-government to its own people. It is a fact that the Cuban people have not enjoyed free and open elections since 1948 and that their freedoms have been curtailed further since 1 January 1959. I, therefore, find it ironic that the Government of Cuba has expressed such deep concern for freedom and free elections in Haiti. Let us hope that this ostensible concern with democracy and "democratic will" in another country is an indication that the Government of Cuba will soon apply the same standards and concern to the Cuban people.

I would like to request that this letter be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Herbert S. OKUN
Acting Permanent Representative
of the United States of America
to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19411*

Letter dated 5 January 1988 from the representative of Pakistan to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*7 January 1988*]

I have the honour to inform you that the Government of Pakistan has rejected the protest made by the Kabul authorities on 10 December 1987, in which it was alleged that on 7 December the Pakistan armed forces fired ground-to-ground rockets at the Afghan security-posts in the region of Dakka Ulaswali Achin and Pachi Agam (Ningrahar province). Pakistan's rejection of the Afghan protest was conveyed to the Afghan Chargé d'affaires at Islamabad on 5 January 1988.

I request you to have this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) S. Shah NAWAZ
Permanent Representative of Pakistan
to the United Nations

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/81-S/19411.

DOCUMENT S/19412*

Letter dated 5 January 1988 from the representative of Pakistan to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*7 January 1988*]

I have the honour to inform you that the Government of Pakistan has rejected the protest made by the Kabul authorities on 17 December 1987, in which it was alleged that on 10 December, at 1145 hours, Pakistan anti-aircraft guns fired at Afghan aircraft in the Afghan Torkham area, Pakistan-Afghanistan border, while they were on routine patrolling. Pakistan's rejection of the Afghan protest was conveyed to the Afghan Chargé d'affaires at Islamabad on 5 January 1988.

I request you to have this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) S. Shah NAWAZ
Permanent Representative of Pakistan
to the United Nations

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/82-S/19412.

DOCUMENT S/19413*

Note by the President of the Security Council

[*Original: English*]
[*7 January 1988*]

The attached letter, dated 7 January 1988, from Mr. Chang Yong Chol, Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Observer Mission of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations, was addressed to the President of the Security Council. In accordance with the request contained in it, I am circulating the letter as a document of the Security Council.

ANNEX

Letter dated 7 January 1988 from the observer of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to forward to you the New Year Address for 1988 (the part dealing with national reunification) of the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, President of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

In his New Year Address President Kim Il Sung made clear the principled position of the Government of our Republic regarding peace and peaceful reunification of the country and proposed to convene a north-south joint conference attended by persons in authority of the north and the south and the representatives of all political parties and social organizations and people of all social standings.

The proposal for convening the north-south joint conference is a most reasonable and realistic one for national salvation, in view of the correctness of its purpose and the nature of the problems of the day.

In order to turn the relations between the north and the south from antagonism and confrontation to reconciliation and unity, outstanding issues in the north and the south should be solved without delay, such as the problems of discontinuing "Team Spirit" joint military exercises and other large-scale military exercises for the present and of convening multinational disarmament talks, of jointly hosting the twenty-fourth Olympic Games and of ceasing to hurl abuse and slander against each other. These problems can be solved correctly only when the will of the authorities, political parties, social organizations and individual persons of the north and the south are brought together, as they are not related to the interests of the authorities of both sides or a specific political party only but related to the common interests of the whole nation.

The north-south joint conference will make it possible to open a new phase in breaking the deadlock between the north and the south and promoting peace and peaceful reunification of the country.

I request that this letter, together with the enclosed portion of the New Year Address, be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

ENCLOSURE

Text of the new proposal on the national reunification out of the New Year Address for 1988 of the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, President of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

The year 1987 was a year when the struggle for peace and the peaceful national reunification was intensive in the north and the south of our country.

In order to ease the tension in Korea and to create a phase favourable for the peaceful reunification, our Party and the Government of the Republic, true to the noble ideas of independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity, proposed high-level political and military talks between north and south. Last year we made a proposal for phased disarmament and a five-point proposal for national unity [*see S/19017, annex*] and worked hard to implement them.

Throughout last year the people from all walks of life in south Korea fought determinedly to end the military fascist dictatorship which had lasted for almost 30 years under the aegis of the United States and to win social democracy and independence as well as peaceful national reunification.

In these days of heroic struggles ranging from the struggle against the fascist "April 13 measure" to the June popular resistance, the workers' struggle from July to September and the struggle in December for the termination of military rule, the south Korean people fully demonstrated their strong desire for independence, democracy and reunification and their indefatigable fighting spirit, and they dealt a heavy blow to the military dictatorship which is backed by the United States. In particular, in the "presidential election" held recently in south Korea 12 million people, far exceeding the majority of voters, clearly expressed their will rejecting

* Incorporating document S/19413/Corr. 1 of 11 January 1988.

prolonged military rule and demanding a civilian government and showed that no one could ignore this powerful fighting force.

I extend high respect to the people of all sections, particularly the workers, peasants, young people, students and intellectuals and to the patriotic democrats in south Korea who recorded a glorious page in their history of the liberation struggle by their courageous anti-United States, anti-fascist struggle in defiance of the harsh military fascist system.

In spite of the desire of the overwhelming majority of the people to abolish military rule and establish civilian government, the military fascist dictatorship is still reigning over the people in south Korea, and what they call a "change of régime" will give them no hope and expectations whatsoever. Experience proves once again that, so long as colonial rule by the United States over south Korea continues, the people's demand for democracy and their desire for social change will not be met. The south Korean people must draw a lesson from this state of affairs. In order to shape their own destiny by their united struggle, they must press on with the cause of anti-fascist democracy and national reunification, putting forward the slogan of anti-United States independence.

Today, the most pressing task of all the Korean people is to achieve the independent and peaceful reunification of the country. The ardent desire of the whole nation for the country's reunification is irresistible, and the just policy and sincere efforts of our Party and the Government of our Republic to reunify the country enjoy stronger support and sympathy of the peoples at home and abroad than ever before.

The international situation as a whole shows a sign of gradual relaxation, and the voice of the world peace-loving people who wish the peaceful settlement of the Korean question is growing louder with each passing day.

The degree of accelerating the country's reunification depends entirely on joint efforts made by the north and the south, the direct parties to the question of reunification. If the country is to be reunified independently and peacefully, it is most urgent that the north and the south have an attitude and willingness to become reconciled and united with each other.

By nature, the question of national reunification is not a matter of who will conquer whom or who will be conquered, nor is it a question of one side overpowering and winning supremacy over the other. It is a question of achieving unity between the north and the south, which make up one nation of the same stock. As historical experience shows, if both sides distrust each other in confrontation and seek division, no success will be expected even though they hold frequent talks, and worse still, if they aim to win by the use of strength the question of reunification will never be settled.

The north-south confrontation and division only give foreign forces a chance to fish in troubled waters. Playing into their hands, our nation has suffered unbearable disasters and misfortunes for more than 40 years. In order to end this disgraceful history and defend national interests, both sides, one and the same nation, must not attempt at a competition but be willing to become reconciled and united and make joint efforts to reunify the country.

Another pressing prerequisite for national reunification is to discontinue military confrontation between the north and the south and to ease the tension. As we have stated more than once, military confrontation is a factor in misunderstanding and distrust. For the fellow countrymen to trust and become reconciled with each other, they must first throw away the daggers hidden in their breast pockets.

Even though it is difficult to reunify the country right now, we must seek a way to a peaceful life, instead of pitting large armies against each other and retaining the factor that may trigger off a war and bring about national calamities. We must be ready to remove the military confrontation, eliminate the danger of war in every way possible and make a bold decision to adopt a non-aggression declaration, a sure guarantee that the north and the south will refrain from attacking each other. The implementation of this declaration can be guaranteed by increasing the authority and functions of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission of the present Military Armistice Commission and by organizing a neutral nations inspection force.

Promoting national reconciliation and unity and easing the tension at present are the minimum requirement of principle for holding north-south talks and settling the reunification question.

We believe that we shall be able to co-operate for national reunification with anyone who takes this principled attitude. If they show such a sincere attitude, we will meet and converse at any time not only with the people from all walks of life, political parties, organizations and people of different opposition groups, but also with the south Korean rulers, unless this is contrary to the people's will, and we will meet everyone individually or collectively to exchange opinions without reserve.

At present many people show deep apprehension, saying that, from the point of view of both the situation in south Korea and the north-south relations, 1988 will be a most strained and complex year.

This year we must turn the situation on the Korean peninsula, the focus of the world's attention, decisively in favour of peace and peaceful reunification of our country. Out of this desire, we insist that the problems of discontinuing the "Team Spirit" joint military exercise and other large-scale war games, of arranging multinational disarmament talks, of hosting the twenty-fourth Olympic Games jointly by north and south and of ceasing to hurl abuse and slander against each other must be discussed and settled without delay within this year.

By resolving these problems of the day, the north and the south will make this year a historic year that will provide the opportunity for a new change for national reconciliation and unity. For this purpose, we propose to convene a north-south joint conference attended by persons in authority of both sides and the representatives of all the political parties and social organizations and people of all social standings. This meeting will make it possible to open a new phase in breaking the deadlock between north and south and promoting peace and peaceful reunification of the country, the burning desire of the whole nation.

For the fundamental settlement of the question of the reunification of our country, the relations between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the United States must be settled. The United States continues its military occupation of south Korea, still avoiding the proposed tripartite talks. This shows that they have no intention of settling even the regional issue, still less preserving world peace.

Speaking from the point of view of a fair deal, the United States is not at all justified in having brought nuclear weapons to south Korea and made it a nuclear base in confrontation with us, who possess no nuclear arms. If these nuclear weapons are aimed at another socialist country, they ought to withdraw them from south Korea now that they have concluded a nuclear disarmament treaty with the Soviet Union. The United States must conclude a peace agreement with us, remove as soon as possible the traces of the past which were undesirable for both sides and open a new chapter in the annals of the Korea-United States relationship in keeping with the current trend towards peace.

We consider it the most reasonable settlement of the question of our country's reunification to establish a single confederal state, neutral and non-aligned, on the basis of the north and the south recognizing each other's existence.

For the independent and peaceful reunification of their country, all the Koreans living in the north, in the south and overseas must participate as one in the accomplishment of the sacred cause of the nation.

DOCUMENT S/19414*

Letter dated 7 January 1988 from the representative of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to the Secretary-General

[*Original: French*]
[*7 January 1988*]

Upon instructions from my Government and further to my earlier letters, particularly my letter of 30 December 1987 concerning the military attack launched by Thailand against Lao territory [*S/19395*], I have the honour to draw your attention to the following.

From 29 December 1987 to 5 January 1988, the Thai third army forces launched a number of artillery attacks (105 and 155 mm shells) against Hills 1428 and 1370 and the other local Lao positions. On 6 January, at approximately 1100 hours, Thai air force F-5 fighter aircraft dropped a number of bombs on the hills in question, which were simultaneously subjected to heavy artillery fire by the invading troops. A number of Thai infantry battalions have been mobilized on the ground for the purpose of launching imminent large-scale attacks on the Lao territory in question. These invading troops have also set about constructing and developing feeder roads in the vicinity. The situation there therefore remains extremely tense. The Lao Government has just informed the Thai Government that one of the conditions set by the Thai Government for commencing negotiations between the two parties—namely, that the Lao troops should withdraw from the positions in question—is absolutely unacceptable to it because that piece of territory is unquestionably Lao, for legal, historical and other reasons. The Lao Government remains absolutely convinced that only the immediate commencement, without preconditions, of negotiations between the two parties involved can bring about a satisfactory political solution to the current conflict, as well as to the two countries' other pending problems. The legitimate interests of the Lao and Thai peoples, who have always ardently aspired to live in peace and fraternal friendship with one another, are at stake.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter circulated as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Kithong VONGSAY
Permanent Representative of
the Lao People's Democratic Republic
to the United Nations

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/83-S/19414.

DOCUMENT S/19415

Letter dated 7 January 1988 from the representative of Lebanon to the President of the Security Council

[*Original: English*]
[*7 January 1988*]

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to request an urgent meeting of the Security Council to consider the continuing acts of aggression and abusive practices of the Israeli occupying forces in Lebanon.

(*Signed*) Rachid FAKHOURY
Permanent Representative of Lebanon
to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19416

Letter dated 8 January 1988 from the representative of Iraq to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Arabic*]
[*8 January 1988*]

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that Radio Tehran made the following statement on Wednesday, 6 January 1988, at 7.30 p.m.:

"Today the Supreme Council of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq held the last meeting of the special conference at its sixth session, whose theme was the intensification of the uprising of the Muslim Iraqi people and which was devoted to consideration of ways of strengthening that uprising, both inside and outside the country and on the various fronts.

"At the meeting, El-Hakim, President of the Supreme Council, stated that the Council had 20,000 combatants for the faith at its disposal and that Iraqi Kurds were fighting the Saddam régime on various fronts. He added that an endeavour was being made to raise the number of combatants to 100,000. At the same meeting, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Velayati, stated that the Islamic revolution represented a major force that was a threat to the interests of hegemonism and that the world now regarded the Supreme Council as an alternative to the Saddam régime. Velayati expressed the hope that the combatants for the faith would very soon proclaim the Islamic Republic of Iraq."

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ismat KITTANI
Permanent Representative of Iraq
to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19417

Letter dated 11 January 1988 from the representative of Kuwait to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Arabic*]
[*11 January 1988*]

With reference to the letter dated 6 January 1988 [*S/19409*] addressed to you by the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and to the notes annexed thereto, and on instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you of the following.

Kuwait regrets deeply that Iran is continuing to repeat these unfounded accusations against it when Kuwait has already denied them repeatedly on various occasions. Iran's insistence on repeating these accusations at a time when the world is wishing and hoping that the efforts made by the Secretary-General and the Security Council will succeed in putting an end to this tragic war reflects Iran's negative attitude towards those efforts and also that country's veiled intentions of pursuing its unjustified acts of aggression against Kuwait and the other countries of the region.

Kuwait categorically rejects these unfounded accusations and finds it strange, moreover, that Iran should choose this precise moment to request distribution of the protest notes, knowing full well that they refer to alleged Iraqi violations of Kuwait's airspace which are far from recent, since they date back to September, October and November.

It is also really surprising that Iran should send these notes to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and request their distribution as an official document before the State concerned has even received them. As of the time of drafting this letter, Kuwait has in fact received none of the aforesaid notes and the Iranian Embassy in Kuwait has confirmed that it has sent none of the three notes to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Kuwait.

The Iranian notes contain inaccuracies and technical and geographical errors which will deceive no one. To cite only two, one of the notes refers to the fact that an Iraqi Mirage fighter jet made an emergency landing on Kuwait's Boubian Island, when everyone knows that there is no airfield on that island. Another of the notes states that an Iraqi plane flying at very high speed (1,200 miles or 1,930 kilometres per hour) and at an altitude of 60,000 feet (18,300 metres) entered Kuwati airspace at 1221 hours and disappeared into Iraqi airspace at 1250 hours. This would mean that the plane took over 29 minutes to make the incursion into Kuwati airspace of which it is accused, when everyone knows that a plane flying at such a speed would take only a matter of seconds to cross that section of Kuwait's airspace.

The above facts show that Iran's intention in transmitting these notes is to continue to create difficulties in its relations with its neighbours and to justify its regrettable position, which is incompatible with the world's desire for peace and with the efforts that Kuwait has made and continues to make to maintain good-neighbourly relations with Iran and brotherly, friendly relations with its neighbouring Muslim people.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter distributed as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammad Saad AL SALLAL
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission of Kuwait
to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19418

Letter dated 12 January 1988 from the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*12 January 1988*]

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that, on 11 January 1988, the criminal régime of Iraq fired chemical artillery shells at Sardasht, as a result of which a number of our fellow countrymen were wounded.

It would be highly appreciated if this letter were circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mahmoud Sadat MADARSHAHI
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission of
the Islamic Republic of Iran
to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19419

Letter dated 11 January 1988 from the representative of Iraq to the Secretary-General

[Original: Arabic]
[12 January 1988]

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you the text of the speech delivered by Mr. Saddam Hussein, President of the Republic of Iraq, on 6 January 1988 on the occasion of the sixty-seventh anniversary of the founding of the Iraqi army.[2]

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ismat KITTANI
Permanent Representative of Iraq
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Excerpt from the speech by Mr. Saddam Hussein, President of the Republic of Iraq, on the sixty-seventh anniversary of the founding of the Iraqi army

Any discussion of the aggression being prepared by the rulers of Tehran and of the military situation in general is closely linked one way or the other with what is happening in the political field.

On 20 July 1987, the Security Council adopted its now well-known resolution 598 (1987), which contains the elements of a comprehensive settlement between Iraq and Iran.

Iraq has welcomed the resolution and expressed genuine readiness to implement it on the basis of its principled and firm position on the conflict. Iraq did not wish to be involved in the conflict which had been imposed on it by the aggressive and expansionist rulers in Tehran, who dreamed of establishing an empire. The war was imposed on us, but we were as ready for it as true men would be in the defense of their sovereignty and dignity.

Since the very beginning of the conflict we have accepted the authority of the Security Council over it and were the first to accept the Council's first resolution on the conflict, which was adopted on 28 September 1980 [*resolution 479 (1980)*]. We have also accepted the authority of the international community and its bodies in which we participate as part of the civilized world, which we wish to see governed by cordial relations amongst peoples, based upon equality and mutual respect for sovereignty, and by the rules of international law.

It was by reason of these principled considerations that we accepted the resolution of the Security Council, and, if the mountebanks ruling Tehran, who are strangers to the noble values of this world, or any other circles thought that other reasons were behind our acceptance, then they are mistaken.

In my letter of 2 August 1986, addressed to the rulers of Tehran [*S/18258, annex*], I laid down five specific principles on the basis of which a comprehensive settlement between Iraq and Iran could be reached. I stated that Iraq was not prepared to accept any settlement that did not contain these principles. Security Council resolution 598 (1987) incorporated these principles along with other elements. We welcomed the resolution and have tried to ensure its implementation responsibly and sincerely.

The Iranian régime, however—which has for seven years now been rejecting peace, insisting on war and scorning the resolutions and appeals of international bodies and organizations—has refused in effect to accept the resolution of the Security Council. Instead, this régime has resorted, in collaboration with Zionists and other circles, both overtly and covertly, to manoeuvring, cheating and deception in an attempt to distort the resolution and misinterpret its meanings and objectives. During these past months, we have co-operated with the Security Council and the Secretary-General of the United Nations. We have listened to and discussed all views and proposals put to us, out of our respect for the organizations representing the international community and out of our deep sense of responsibility with regard to peace.

If any party has misinterpreted our behaviour, then I must warn such party not to misunderstand our wise and responsible position. Let nobody be misled into the delusion that, by behaving responsibly, Iraq is prepared to compromise its principled stand or concede any of its fundamental rights.

Iraq accepted resolution 598 (1987) because it is aimed at the cessation of hostilities, unconditional withdrawal to the internationally recognized boundaries, the exchange of prisoners of war, the achievement of a permanent peace and the maintenance of security and stability in the Arabian Gulf area. Iraq will not accept any proposal or plan which is not conducive to the achievement of these goals. When we say that the implementation of the resolution should follow the exact sequence of its operative paragraphs, in compliance with the wording of the resolution, we express thereby our concern for sound implementation conducive to sound results. Iraq will not agree to any manipulation of the resolution, whether in the sequence of its paragraphs, in its substance or in its conclusions.

If the Tehran rulers believe that, through manoeuvres and ploys instigated by suspect circles or through threats of a new aggression, they would be able to blackmail us into making concessions, they are completely wrong. Iraq, sustained by its strength, steadfastness and sense of responsibility, will not compromise its principled positions and legitimate rights, notwithstanding any circumstances. The States which are permanent members of the Security Council are fully aware that this position of ours had been clearly expressed prior to the adoption of resolution 598 (1987) and was further expounded last year, through both documents and contacts, when the forces of the Iranian régime were threatening to occupy the city of Basra. We informed those States in an unequivocal manner that Iraq would not accept any plan that did not contain the basic principles announced by us on 2 August 1986. Today we reaffirm this position. Any party trying to manipulate one aspect or another of the resolution with a view to appeasing the lawless Iranian régime, which unscrupulously resorts to blackmail, terror and bribery, is hereby warned that the prudence and sense of responsibility shown by Iraq do not mean that Iraq will appease anybody or accept any manipulation. We insist most vigorously on our principled position and legitimate rights and will continue our heroic fight until the Iranian régime yields to the dictates of justice, renounces its evil intentions and accepts a just peace based on the norms of international practice in this modern age.

The pursuit of a policy of appeasement towards the Iranian régime during these past months and the acquiescent approach to Iranian manoeuvres and distortions on the part of certain circles have encouraged the rulers of Iran to continue resorting to such methods. This has not served the cause of peace but rather has contributed to the prolongation of the war and to the consequent intensification of Iranian threats to the security and stability of the region. It is high time that the Security Council, the Secretariat of the United Nations and the States concerned went ahead without further delay with the task of imposing sanctions against this aberrant, aggressive régime which has flouted the Charter of the United Nations and international law.

Any other conduct towards that régime will neither serve the cause of peace nor be conducive to enhancing the standing and credibility of the United Nations. On the contrary, the pursuit of a policy of appeasement towards Iran and the acquiescent approach to the manoeuvres of its rulers can only be attributed to suspect motives and interpreted as a lack in serious commitment to the resolutions of the international Organization.

DOCUMENT S/19421

Letter dated 12 January 1988 from the representative of Iraq to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Arabic*]
[*12 January 1988*]

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that the criminal armed forces of Iran have continued to attack purely residential civilian areas in Iraq, as indicated:

Time	*Place*	*Casualties and damage*
6 January		
1445 to 1500	Sulaymaniyah: Beymalik residential complex	1 citizen wounded; several houses damaged
9 January		
0930 to 1700	Basra: Sahah Sa'd, Al-Buradi'iyah, Manawi Basha, Old Basra, Al-Mishraq, Al-Ashshar, Al-Tuwaysah, Al-Rissalah district near the iron and steel complex, Al-Harithah district near the thermo-electric plant, Zubayr district	8 citizens, including 1 woman, killed, and 27 wounded, including 1 child and 3 women; 11 houses, 1 kindergarten, 6 vehicles and 1 hospital damaged

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annexes distributed as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ismat KITTANI
Permanent Representative of Iraq
to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19422*

Letter dated 11 January 1988 from the representative of Pakistan to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*12 January 1988*]

Further to our letter of 15 December 1987 [*S/19351*], I have the honour to report to you the following incident in violation of Pakistan territory from the Afghanistan side, which occurred on 5 January 1988.

Between 2150 hours and 2225 hours, Afghan armed forces fired 15 rounds of mortar which landed in the area approximately 2 kilometres north of the Chaman (Baluchistan). As a result, three civilians (Pakistan nationals) were injured.

The Afghan Chargé d'affaires was called to the Foreign Office on the morning of 11 January and a strong protest was lodged with him over the unprovoked attacks. He was asked to inform the authorities at Kaubl that if such attacks did not cease the entire responsibility for the serious consequences would rest on them.

I request you to have this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Shaukat UMER
Acting Permanent Representative of Pakistan
to the United Nations

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/84-S/19422.

DOCUMENT S/19423*

Letter dated 12 January 1988 from the representative of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Arabic*]
[*12 January 1988*]

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a letter addressed to you by Mr. Jadallah Azzouz Talhi, Secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison, concerning the provocation to which the Libyan boat *Granada* was subjected in the Mediterranean by a United States fighter plane.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter distributed as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ali Sunni MUNTASSER
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission of
the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
to the United Nations

LETTER FROM THE SECRETARY OF THE PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE OF THE PEOPLE'S BUREAU FOR FOREIGN LIAISON OF THE LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I wish to inform you that on 7 January 1988, an American fighter plane flew three times at low altitude over the Libyan steamer *Granada*. The boat, belonging to National Public Shipping Company, was sailing from the port of Izmir in Turkey to the port of Benghazi and was 115 nautical miles from the port of Sidi Barrani in western Egypt at the time of the incident.

1. The overflight of the Libyan steamer by an American fighter plane constitutes a further act of provocation against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and forms part of the relentless campaign of threats waged by the United States, to which we have already drawn the attention of the United Nations on numerous occasions.

2. This provocation constitutes an undisguised threat to the security and integrity of communication lines in the Mediterranean basin, not only for Libya but for all the countries of the region.

3. This act is also a blatant violation of international law and runs counter to United Nations resolutions on transforming the Mediterranean basin into a zone of security and co-operation.

4. Moreover, this provocation confirms that the warnings issued by the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya against the dangers of the American military presence in the Mediterranean basin, which poses a real threat to sea and air communication lines in the region, are well-founded.

This act also proves that the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya is right to demand the withdrawal of foreign fleets and the removal of foreign bases from the Mediterranean basin, with a view to transforming it into a zone of security and peace.

Jadallah Azzouz TALHI
Secretary of the People's Committee of
the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison
of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/85-S/19423.

DOCUMENT S/19424*

Letter dated 12 January 1988 from the Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*12 January 1988*]

In my capacity as Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, I wish once again to draw your urgent attention to the continuing deterioration of the situation in the occupied Palestinian territories owing to the policies and practices of Israel, the occupying Power, including the use of live ammunition against demonstrators, mass arrests, detentions and deportations.

A number of grave incidents have taken place since my letter of 5 January 1988 [*S/19405*]. On 8 January, UPI and *The New York Times* reported that Israeli troops fired on Palestinian demonstrators in the refugee camps of Nuseirat and Maghazi, south of Gaza City, killing a young Palestinian and injuring six others. Another young Palestinian from the Maghazi camp died of wounds inflicted a day earlier.

The New York Times reported on 11 January that on 10 January two Palestinians were killed, including a pregnant woman who died of tear-gas inhalation, and as many as 50 others were wounded by Israeli troops during demonstrations throughout the Gaza Strip. Another Palestinian died of gunshot wounds sustained in an earlier incident in the village of Rafa. The Israeli army was also reported to have sent large reinforcements into the Gaza Strip and to have declared most of the area a closed military zone, barred to journalists and others.

On 11 January, Reuters reported that two more Palestinians were killed by the army in Khan Younis, Gaza Strip, and another young Palestinian was shot dead and one was wounded by Jewish settlers in Beitin, the West Bank. Several Palestinians were also injured by bullets in both incidents. The total number of dead has reached at least 35 since the beginning of the protests last month.

According to Reuters, Israeli authorities disclosed on 8 January that at least 30 Palestinians from the West Bank

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/86-S/19424.

and Gaza were placed under administrative detention without trial for up to six months. A total number of almost 2,000 Palestinians have been arrested, the majority of whom remain gaoled awaiting trial in the military courts.

The Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People wishes to express once again its utmost concern at these policies and practices of Israel in the occupied territories, which are in clear violation of the human rights of the Palestinian people, of United Nations resolutions and of the Fourth Geneva Convention of 12 August 1949.[1] The Committee wishes to recall that the Security Council, in its resolutions 605 (1987) of 22 December 1987 and 607 (1988) of 5 January 1988, has requested Israel, the occupying Power, to abide by its obligations arising under the Convention.

The Committee appeals to you to take all possible measures for alleviating the suffering of the Palestinians under Israeli occupation and for ensuring their safety and protection. Further, the Committee appeals to you to intensify your efforts to bring about a comprehensive, just and lasting solution to the question of Palestine, in accordance with United Nations resolutions, in particular through the convening of the International Peace Conference on the Middle East, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 38/58 C of 13 December 1983.

I should be grateful if you would arrange for the text of this letter to be circulated as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Massamba SARRÉ
Chairman of the Committee
on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights
of the Palestinian People

DOCUMENT S/19426*

Letter dated 12 January 1988 from the representative of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to the Secretary-General

[*Original: French*]
[*13 January 1988*]

On instructions from my Government and further to my earlier letters concerning the military attack launched by Thailand against Lao territory, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the following documents:

1. The text of an aide-memoire which the Lao Minister for Foreign Affairs sent to the Thai Government on 7 January 1988 (see annex I);

2. A press release from the Lao Ministry of Foreign Affairs on the latest developments in the military situation in Botène region (see annex II).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annexes distributed as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Kithong VONGSAY
Permanent Representative of
the Lao People's Democratic Republic
to the United Nations

ANNEX I

Aide-memoire dated 7 January 1988 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic

1. In accordance with the Franco-Siamese treaty of 23 March 1907 and its Protocol, for 80 years, i.e., from 1907 until May 1987, the territory of the region of the Nam Huong river in Nabonoi commune, Botène district, was always administered by France and subsequently by Laos. Thailand never claimed this territory, except in the period 1941-1946 when Sayaboury province was granted to Thailand which subsequently returned it to France in 1946, thereby restoring to full force the 1907 Franco-Siamese treaty and its protocol.

2. In May 1987, Thai troops took up position in this region and offered their protection to Thai nationals who were engaged in felling wood there, a situation which gave rise to armed clashes with local Lao troops. Thailand then reinforced its troops there and unilaterally proclaimed that Nam Huong Nga constitutes the frontier between the two countries, thereby contradicting the provisions of the 1907 Protocol which state expressly that Nam Huong is the frontier between the two countries.

Such actions by Thailand constitute a flagrant violation of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Laos and are the cause of the current, increasingly serious, armed clashes. They are also similar to the action taken by Thailand against three Lao villages in 1984. Accordingly, the Lao Government demands that Thailand put an end to its acts of aggression by withdrawing all its troops from the territory in question, as well as all the Thai nationals who have entered it to fell wood. The Lao people is resolutely determined to defend its territory.

Laos reaffirms that negotiations on an equal footing and without pre-conditions are the only fair approach to the problem and one in keeping with the general trend towards dialogue. Thailand's proposal that Laos should withdraw its troops from the territory of its own country conflicts with the real situation and shows that Thailand is not only insincere in its pledge to find a solution through dialogue but is also preparing to launch further large-scale offensives in the region.

3. Laos reiterates that, at earlier meetings, it did not slander Thailand in any way but tried to settle the problem on the basis of reality and reason on this point. Accordingly, Thailand should not impose pre-conditions which would obstruct a dialogue.

4. Concerning the agenda for negotiations, Laos is ready to discuss any problem which has a bearing on relations between the two countries, including the problem of the three villages and the currently tense region of Nabonoi commune.

5. Concerning the negotiations, Laos would agree to the holding of a meeting at the earliest possible date at either Vientiane or Bangkok or at the two cities alternately.

6. Concerning an end to the fighting, Laos believes that the region of Nabonoi commune, which is situated on the left bank of Nam Huong and to the east of the Phou Soy Dao watershed, forms an integral part of Lao territory.

Laos calls on Thailand to withdraw all its infantry troops and artillery units from the region, as well as all the people who have gone there to fell wood, and to halt all air and land activities in order to avoid armed confrontations. To prove its good will and create conditions favourable to dialogue, Laos will end all its military activity in that region.

ANNEX II

Press release from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic

At about 0530 hours on 7 January 1988, forces of the Thai third army launched several infantry attacks (three companies of regular forces and one company of "ranger" forces were mobilized for the occasion) against Hill 1182 (local Lao position approximately 3 to 5 kilometres from the Lao-Thai border).

* Ciculated under the double symbol A/43/87-S/19426.

At about 1100 hours on 8 January, the same forces bombarded Hill 1182 with their artillery (105 mm and 155 mm shells). Between 1320 and 1400 hours, a Thai A-37 aircraft twice overflew Phouvieng region in Nakok commune, situated approximately 15 to 25 kilometres inside Lao territory.

On 9 January three rocket-launcher helicopters of the Thai third army fired several rockets at various local Lao positions; at the same time, these positions were subjected to heavy artillery fire (more than 1,000 shells were fired). At about 1400 hours on the same day, Hill 1182 was subjected to major infantry attacks by the Thai third army.

DOCUMENT S/19428

Letter dated 13 January 1988 from the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Secretary-General

[Original: English]
[14 January 1988]

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to enclose herewith the text of a note verbale dated 27 December 1987 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran addressed to the French Interest Section of the Italian Embassy in Tehran.

It would be appreciated if this letter and its annex were circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mahmoud Sadat MADARSHAHI
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission of
the Islamic Republic of Iran
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Note verbale dated 27 December 1987 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran addressed to the French Interest Section of the Italian Embassy in Tehran

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran presents its compliments to the Embassy of Italy (French Interest Section) in Tehran and has the honour to inform it that according to the information provided by pertinent officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran:

(1) On 21 November 1987, at 0955 hours, a French Super Etandard aircraft positioned at 24°37′ N and 58°40′ E intercepted an Iranian patrol aircraft for the duration of five minutes.

(2) On 25 November 1987, at 0905 hours, a French aircraft positioned at 25°01′ N and 58°15′ E intercepted Iranian patrol aircraft for the duration of five minutes and warned them to remain at a distance of 10 miles from the French naval vessels.

It is evident that the right of overflight in international waters for all States is one of the universally recognized rights in international law. French aircraft have chased and intercepted Iranian patrol aircraft, preventing their free passage over international waters of the Persian Gulf in violation of all accepted norms of international law. Therefore, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, while protesting these actions, strongly demands a halt to such activities.

The Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Embassy of Italy (French Interest Section) the assurances of its highest consideration.

Hoping for the victory of the oppressed over the oppressors.

DOCUMENT S/19431*

Letter dated 15 January 1988 from the representative of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to the Secretary-General

[Original: Arabic]
[15 January 1988]

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of a message addressed to you by Colonel Muammar Qaddafi concerning the situation currently prevailing in the occupied territories and the arrests, expulsions and killings to which the children of the Palestinian people are being subjected.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter distributed as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ali Sunni MUNTASSER
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission
of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
to the United Nations

MESSAGE ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

The hideous crimes—arrests, expulsions and killings—and the blatant human rights violations to which unarmed Palestinian women, old people and children are currently being subjected in the occupied territories are more barbaric than the crimes perpetrated by the Nazis and have reached the point where we are forced to reconsider post-war culture and its definition of crimes against humanity.

The world demands that we take firm action to put an end to the tragedy of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories, and this can only be done by adopting sanctions to punish the Israeli criminals for their heinous crimes.

Muammar QADAFFI

• Circulated under the double symbol A/43/89-S/19431.

DOCUMENT S/19434

Algeria, Argentina, Nepal, Senegal, Yugoslavia and Zambia: draft resolution

[*Original: English*]
[*15 January 1988*]

The Security Council,

Reaffirming its resolutions 425 (1978), 426 (1978), 508 (1982) and 509 (1982), as well as all its resolutions on the situation in southern Lebanon,

Having heard the statement of the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations,

Noting with grave concern the deterioration of the situation in southern Lebanon as a result of the repeated Israeli attacks and all other measures and practices against the civilian population,

Deeply concerned with the encroachment on land and setting up of fences affecting the internationally recognized boundaries, as described in the Secretary-General's note of 24 November 1987 [*see S/19318*],

1. *Strongly deplores* the repeated Israeli attacks against Lebanese territory and all other measures and practices against the civilian population;

2. *Strongly requests* that Israel cease all acts of encroachment on land, construction of roads and setting up of fences that violate the border and any attempts to occupy or change the status of Lebanese territory or to impede the return of the effective authority of the Government of Lebanon in sovereign Lebanese territory;

3. *Reaffirms its calls* for strict respect for the sovereignty of Lebanon and its independence, unity and territorial integrity within its internationally recognized boundaries;

4. *Reaffirms also* the urgent need to implement the provisions of its resolutions on Lebanon, in particular resolutions 425 (1978) and 426 (1978), and resolution 509 (1982), which demands that Israel withdraw all its military forces forthwith and unconditionally to the internationally recognized boundaries;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue consultations with the Government of Lebanon and other parties directly concerned in the implementation of resolutions 425 (1978), 426 (1978), 508 (1982) and 509 (1982) and to report thereon to the Security Council;

6. *Decides* to keep the situation in southern Lebanon under review.

DOCUMENT S/19435

Letter dated 18 January 1988 from the representative of Iraq to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Arabic*]
[*18 January 1988*]

On instructions from my Government and further to our previous letters, the most recent being that contained in document S/19421, I have the honour to inform you that on 15 and 16 January 1988, the Iranian armed forces committed the following acts of aggression against residential areas in Iraq:

Time	*Place*	*Casualties and damage*
1200 to 1220	Sulaymaniyah: Beymalik residential complex, Qala Diza district	3 wounded, including 1 woman
1715 to 1800	Sulaymaniyah: Beymalik residential complex, Qala Diza district	1 woman wounded; damage to 4 houses

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ismat KITTANI
Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19436*

Letter dated 18 January 1988 from the representative of Kuwait to the Secretary-General

[Original: Arabic/English]
[18 January 1988]

I have the honour to enclose a letter addressed to you from Mr. Zehdi Labib Terzi, Permanent Observer of the Palestine Liberation Organization to the United Nations, and its enclosure, a message from Sheikh Saadeddine Al Alami, President of the High Islamic Commission in Jerusalem.

I should be grateful if you would arrange for this letter and its enclosure to be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammad A. ABULHASAN
Permanent Representative of Kuwait
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Letter dated 18 January 1988 from the observer of the Palestine Liberation Organization to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose herewith a message from the President of the High Islamic Commission in Jerusalem, Sheikh Saadeddine Al Alami.

ENCLOSURE

Message dated 16 January 1988 from Sheikh Saadeddine Al Alami, President of the High Islamic Commission in Jerusalem addressed to the Secretary-General

Israel, not satisfied with its expulsion of the sons of Palestine from their homeland, and despite the protests of the Security Council and the international community, has ordered its troops to lay siege to mosques in Al-Quds and Bethlehem. Thus it was that on 15 January 1988, as worshippers were at Friday prayers at the Al-Aqsa Mosque and the Dome of the Rock, Israeli troops opened fire and hurled tear-gas canisters, before proceeding to a general charge that spared not even women, children and the elderly. Many were seriously wounded and had to be hospitalized.

In the face of such practices by the Israeli occupation authorities, the whole world must resolutely condemn those barbaric outrages, which are contrary to international norms and customs, and must put an end to the daily suffering of the Palestinian people.

I request that the text of this telegram be circulated among members of the United Nations as an official document.

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/90-S/19436.

DOCUMENT S/19437*

Letter dated 19 January 1988 from the representative of Democratic Kampuchea to the Secretary-General

[Original: English/French]
[19 January 1988]

I have the honour to transmit herewith for your information the text of the press communiqué issued on 16 January 1988 at the end of the meeting of the representatives of the three components of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea.

I should be very grateful if you would have the communiqué circulated as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) THIOUNN Prasith
Permanent Representative
of Democratic Kampuchea
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Press communiqué dated 16 January 1988

1. On 16 January 1988, Prince Norodom Ranariddh, the Personal Representative of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk to Cambodia and Asia and Commander-in-Chief of the Sihanoukian National Army, Mr. Son Sen, Minister, member of the Co-ordinating Committee on the Defence and Commander-in-Chief of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea, and Mr. Im Chhoodeth, Minister, member of the Co-ordinating Committee on Defence and Representative of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front, met to discuss the current situation on the battlefield in Kampuchea.

2. The meeting expressed its satisfaction with the favourable development and with the victories of the three patriotic forces in their common struggle against the Vietnamese aggressors during the past year 1987, the struggle that has driven the latter into a more bogged-down situation.

3. The meeting exchanged views and was unanimous on the strategy and tactics in pursuing more actively their common fightings against the Vietnamese aggressors on the battlefield during this year 1988 until the last Vietnamese soldier is driven out of Kampuchea.

4. The meeting was also pleased to note that the Kampuchean people as well as the Khmer soldiers, self-defence guards and civil servants forcibly enlisted by the Vietnamese have more actively participated in the national liberation struggle.

5. The meeting seized this opportunity to appeal:

(*a*) To the three armed forces of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea (CGDK) to increase their co-operation in the struggle against the Vietnamese aggressors, in pursuance of the instructions of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, President of Democratic Kampuchea;

To the three armed forces of the CGDK to continue to struggle until the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam accepts to negotiate with the CGDK, having Samdech Norodom Sihanouk as President of Democratic Kampuchea, a political settlement of the problem of Kampuchea by withdrawing all its forces from Kampuchea so as to enable the Kampuchean people to exercise their right to self-determination free from any outside interference;

(*b*) To the whole people of Kampuchea as well as to the Khmer soldiers, self-defence guards and civil servants forcibly enlisted by the Vietnamese to join more actively in the national liberation struggle;

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/92-S/19437.

(c) To peace-, justice- and independence-loving countries and peoples in the world to continue to support the Kampuchean people's struggle under the leadership of the CGDK with Samdech Norodom Sihanouk as President of Democratic Kampuchea.

6. The meeting took place in a very cordial and fraternal atmosphere.

(*Signed*) NORODOM Ranariddh
SON Sen
IM Chhoodeth

DOCUMENT S/19438*

Letter dated 19 January 1988 from the representative of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*19 January 1988*]

Upon instructions from my Government and further to my earlier letters concerning the military attack launched by Thailand against Lao territory, I have the honour to bring to your attention, as follows, the latest developments with respect to that situation and to transmit herewith excerpts from a statement issued on 14 January 1988 by the spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

Between 1100 and 1500 hours on 15 January, forces of the Thai third army launched heavy artillery attacks (about 100 shells were fired) against Hills 1428 and 1370 and the other local Lao positions. They dispatched two more infantry battalions and about 37 companies of "Ranger" forces into the area, and a number of F5 fighter aircraft are currently assigned, on a permanent basis, to the Thai province of Phitsanoulok.

At about 1530 hours on 16 January, the same forces bombarded the aforesaid hills and various local Lao positions with their artillery (105-mm and 155-mm shells were fired).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex distributed as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Kithong VONGSAY
Permanent Representative
of the Lao People's Democratic Republic
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Excerpts from a statement issued on 14 January 1988 by the spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic

On 14 January 1988, the spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic delivered a statement in the presence of a number of Lao and Vientiane-based foreign newsmen. At this press briefing four maps, as well as photographs illustrating casualties suffered by the invading forces and war materials that they used, were shown to the audience. The press briefing said in the main the following.

In the course of history the delimitation of the borderline between Luang Prabang and Siam has been modified several times. On 13 February 1904, a convention between France and Siam was signed at Paris. Concerning the border of Luang Prabang (southern border), article 2 of this convention stipulates the following: "The border starts from the *Nam Huang river* and the Mekong river and instead of following the Tang river the border follows the thalweg of the Nam Huang river whose upper part is called Nam Man and follows the watershed between the Mekong river and the Menam river until the source of the Nam Man river. From there and along the watershed, the border goes up to the north in conformity with the convention of 13 February 1904." The southern portion of Dan Say district is clearly shown on map No. 1 being part of Lao territory.

On 23 March 1907, a new agreement between France and Siam was signed at Bangkok, and the protocol thereto annexed regulates the borderline between Luang Prabang and Siam. Article 2 of the protocol unequivocally referred to Nam Huang river as constituting a borderline between Laos and Siam.

Map No. 2 is a new one using modern survey techniques and was printed in 1967 on the basis of the map drawn by the Thai military map department. Here the borderline on the western side of Nabonoi canton, Botène district, as shown on this map, is correct and is in conformity with the Franco-Siamese treaty of 1907 and its protocol, in so far as Nam Huang river and the ridge of Phou Soy Dao are referred to as constituting the borderline between Laos and Thailand in this particular area. Under the map the following is written in Thai language: "Prepared by the Army Map Service, Corps of Engineers, Washington, D.C. Compiled in 1960 by photogrammetric methods and from Indo-China and Thailand. Scale of: 1.250.000, AMA, N.E 47-12 printed in 1956. Color separated by U.S. Army Map Service, far east horizontal and vertical control established by Royal Thai survey department and 29th engineer battalion (base photographic). Names and data by Royal Thai Survey Department." Map No. 3, which was printed by the Soviet map service in 1974, confirms indisputably the borderline defined by the 1907 protocol. Map No. 4 is from the same series 7017 as the one which was published by the Thai Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Bangkok on 28 December 1987. This map, having been modified in a clumsy manner, is not in conformity with the relevant provisions of the 1907 Franco-Siamese treaty and its protocol. Thus the words "Pathet Thai" (Thailand) can still be seen at the former borderline location. Being a forged document, this map is devoid of any legal value.

From the foregoing it can be asserted that under the provisions of the Franco-Siamese treaty of 23 March 1907 and its protocol and according to maps Nos. 1, 2 and 3, the border at Nabonoi canton, Botène district, near Thailand forms an integral part of Lao territory since it traces along the Nam Huang river until the ridge of Phou Soy Dao Mountain *and not along the Huang Nga river* which is only the tributary of Nam Huang, as has been claimed unilaterally by the Thai side.

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/93-S/19438.

DOCUMENT S/19439*

Letter dated 20 January 1988 from the representative of Kuwait to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*20 January 1988*]

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the communiqué adopted on 19 January 1988 at the meeting of the members of the Organization of the Islamic Conference concerning the desecration of Al-Masjed Al-Aqsa on 15 January 1988.

I should appreciate it if you would arrange to have the text distributed as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammad A. ABULHASAN
Permanent Representative of Kuwait to the United Nations

ANNEX

Communiqué adopted at the urgent meeting of the members of the Organization of the Islamic Conference at the United Nations, held in New York on 19 January 1988

An urgent meeting of the members of the Organization of the Islamic Conference at the United Nations was held in New York at the request of the Palestine Liberation Organization on Tuesday, 19 January 1988, to consider the grave situation in the occupied Palestinian territories.

The meeting was apprised in particular of the desecration of Al-Masjed Al-Aqsa and the Dome of the Sacred Rock in Al-Quds Al-Sharif (Jerusalem) on 15 January, during Friday prayers.

The meeting recalled that an emergency meeting of the OIC Al-Quds Committee was held on 15 Jumad Awwal 1408H (5 January 1988) in the city of Ifrane, Morocco, at the invitation of its chairman, King Hassan II, to consider the ferocious suppressive methods used by Israel, the occupying power, against the Palestinian people. That meeting designated 15 January 1988 as a day of Islamic solidarity with the uprising of the Palestinian people.

On Friday, 15 January, while worshippers were performing their prayers at Al-Aqsa Mosque and at the Dome of the Sacred Rock, Israeli troops were rushed into the Mosque and opened fire and launched tear gas bombs against the worshippers, resulting in scores of injuries that demanded hospital treatment, some suffering from serious wounds.

The meeting was also apprised of attacks on a number of mosques in Bethlehem, Nablus and Gaza and flagrant violations of the performance of prayers. Churches as well were subjected to similar brutalities. The Catholic priest of Rammallah was assaulted and injured in the convent by Israeli troops.

The meeting reiterates its condemnation of Israel's occupation of the Palestinian and other Arab territories, including Al-Quds Al-Sharif, and considers that the continuation of the occupation constitutes a grave violation of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of the Palestinian and other Arab people under Israeli occupation. The meeting reaffirms that the continued Israeli occupation is a violation of the relevant United Nations resolutions.

The meeting strongly condemns the Zionist policies and practices by the Israeli troops against the Palestinian Arab people in the occupied Palestinian territories in violation of the Fourth Geneva Convention.[1] It calls upon the United Nations to provide protection to ensure the safety for the Palestinians under Israeli occupation. The meeting further calls for an investigation, under the auspices of the United Nations and the International Red Cross, to determine the magnitude of the heinous crimes committed by Israel. The meeting calls upon the members of the Security Council to take deterrent measures against Israel, including the imposing of sanctions in accordance with Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations.

The members of the Organization of the Islamic Conference at the United Nations salute the Palestinian people and express their pride in their uprising and declare their solidarity with and support for the glorious Palestinian uprising against Israeli occupation.

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/94-S/19439.

DOCUMENT S/19440

Letter dated 20 January 1988 from the representative of Lebanon to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*20 January 1988*]

I have the honour to inform you that the Government of Lebanon has decided to request the Security Council to extend the mandate of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), which expires on 31 January 1988, for a further period of six months, on the basis of the provisions of Security Council resolutions 425 (1978), 426 (1978), 501 (1982), 508 (1982), 509 (1982) and 520 (1982) and of other relevant resolutions and decisions of the Security Council.

The Government of Lebanon, while calling for the immediate implementation of the above-mentioned resolutions, would like to reaffirm the terms of the mandate of UNIFIL as laid down in resolutions 425 (1978) and 426 (1978), the report of the Secretary-General contained in document S/12611 of 19 March 1978, and resolutions 501 (1982) and 509 (1982).

I should like to assure you that my Government remains persuaded that, in spite of the difficult conditions in south Lebanon, the presence of UNIFIL in Lebanon continues to be highly necessary and constitutes an important factor of stability and an international commitment to the upholding of the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Lebanon.

My Government takes this opportunity to pay tribute and express its gratitude to UNIFIL and the countries which have sent contingents for their efforts and sacrifices in serving the cause of peace in Lebanon.

I should be grateful if you would bring the text of this letter to the attention of the members of the Security Council and arrange for it to be circulated as a document of the Council.

(*Signed*) Rachid FAKHOURY
Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19441*

Letter dated 20 January 1988 from the Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People to the Secretary-General

[*Original: French*]
[*20 January 1988*]

In my capacity as Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, I wish once again to draw your urgent attention to the continuing deterioration of the situation in the occupied Palestinian territories, in particular, to the increasingly systematic use by Israel of collective punishment against Palestinians.

Since my last letter, dated 12 January 1988 [*S/19424*], a number of grave incidents have taken place. On 15 January, *Ha'aretz* reported that the army was imposing "economic curfews" on refugee camps, preventing residents from leaving the camps and thus cutting off more than 250,000 Palestinians from their sources of income. Reuters reported on 18 January that at the Nuseirat refugee camp south of Gaza, Israeli soldiers had seized and destroyed food that Palestinian women had been trying to take into the camp under curfew. Quoting UNRWA and the Red Crescent Relief Agency, the same source stated that there were serious shortages of food in the eight refugee camps in the Gaza Strip, where more than 200,000 Palestinian refugees have been living under curfew for a period of one to two weeks.

According to UPI, Yitzhak Rabin, the Israeli Minister of Defence, said on 19 January that the army would block emergency food shipments to the refugee camps in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip "as long as Palestinian shopkeepers continue commercial strikes in support of anti-Israeli protests". *The New York Times* reported, on the same date, that curfews were still in effect in all refugee camps in the Gaza Strip. In the West Bank, where curfews in six of the 15 refugee camps were reported to have been lifted in recent days, curfews were still in place at various times of the day.

Several violent incidents have also taken place. On 13 January, UPI reported that two Palestinians had been killed by the army, one near Ramallah, and the second, a boy, in Gaza. UPI reported on 15 January that Israeli police and troops had fired tear gas on worshippers at the Al-Aqsa shrine, injuring more than 90 people. Several canisters of tear gas were also fired into the Dome of the Rock and Al-Aqsa Mosques. Three of the injured were admitted to hospital in serious condition.

On 19 January, UPI reported that Israeli soldiers had shot and wounded a Palestinian man during a clash with demonstrators in the village of Mazraáh El-Shargiya, north of Ramallah. It was also reported that a Palestinian woman in Sair, south of Jerusalem, had been shot and wounded by the army during a demonstration.

The Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People wishes to express once again its utmost concern at these policies and practices of Israel, the occupying Power, which are in clear violation of the basic rights of the Palestinian people, of United Nations resolutions and of the Fourth Geneva Convention of 12 August 1949.[1] The Committee is particularly concerned by the imposition of collective punishment on the entire Palestinian population, which can only exacerbate tension and further hamper international efforts to achieve a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine.

The Committee appeals to you to take all possible measures to alleviate the suffering of the Palestinians under Israeli occupation, particularly to ensure the continuous supply of food and other necessities to the refugee camps. Further, the Committee reiterates its appeal for the intensification of efforts by all concerned to bring about a comprehensive, just and lasting solution to the question of Palestine, in accordance with United Nations resolutions, in particular through the convening of the International Peace Conference on the Middle East, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 38/58 C of 13 December 1983.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Massamba SARRÉ
Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/95-S/19441.

DOCUMENT S/19442*

Letter dated 20 January 1988 from the representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Russian*]
[*20 January 1988*]

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a letter dated 19 January 1988 from Mr. E. A. Shevardnadze, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) A. BELONOGOV
Permanent Representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the United Nations

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/96-S/19442.

LETTER DATED 19 JANUARY 1988 FROM THE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Recent events have again focused the attention of the international community on the situation in the Middle East. Massive Palestinian demonstrations in the territories occupied by Israel have reached the levels of a popular uprising. They show in a convincing manner the dangerous nature of the delusions of those who try at any cost to keep the land of others acquired through the use of armed force, who believe that time in the final analysis works to perpetuate the results of aggression and who refuse to look in a serious and business-like manner for means of unblocking the situation in the Middle East.

The unabated tensions in the Middle East adversely affect the political atmosphere not only in that region, but also in the international arena as a whole, and they hamper progress towards a more secure world. All States that are seriously interested in ensuring general security have a collective responsibility to reverse the dangerous trends in the Middle East.

We in the Soviet Union are gratified that the international community is becoming ever more deeply convinced of the need to find an immediate political settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict. This is evidenced by the growing support for the idea of an international conference on the Middle East as the only realistic and reliable means of achieving such a settlement. This support was clearly reflected at the recent forty-second session of the General Assembly. Of particular urgency now is the need to transform the political will of States reflected in the General Assembly's decisions into specific and practical steps to solve the hard-core problems of the Middle East. Encouraging trends in international life are creating favourable conditions for that process.

We are convinced that the United Nations possesses both the high prestige and the necessary potential to revitalize the process of a Middle East settlement. It has considerable untapped possibilities, which should be utilized to the fullest. Above all, we believe that the Security Council, as the primary United Nations body responsible for the maintenance of universal peace, should be immediately involved in the practical process of setting up and putting in motion the mechanism of the international conference on the Middle East, which should be designed to find, on the basis of multilateral efforts, a reasonable balance among the interests of all the parties and to ensure lasting peace and security in the region.

We suggest that the members of the Security Council proceed to consultations to consider the relevant questions. The initiative in this matter, we believe, could belong to the permanent members of the Council. Conclusions and recommendations arrived at during such consultations could be considered at a formal meeting of the Council. In view of the particular importance of this question for the maintenance of international security, we propose that such a meeting should be held at the foreign minister level. We hope that you, for your part, will use the means at your disposal and your personal authority to contribute effectively to a general agreement on immediate practical steps for the convening of an international conference on the Middle East.

E. SHEVARDNADZE
Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

DOCUMENT S/19443

Report submitted to the Security Council by the Secretary-General in accordance with resolution 605 (1987)

[*Original: English*]
[*21 January 1988*]

INTRODUCTION

1. On 22 December 1987 the Security Council adopted resolution 605 (1987), which reads as follows:

"*The Security Council,*

"*Having considered* the letter dated 11 December 1987 from the Permanent Representative of Democratic Yemen to the United Nations, [*S/19333*] in his capacity as Chairman of the Group of Arab States at the United Nations for the month of December,

"*Bearing in mind* the inalienable rights of all peoples recognized by the Charter of the United Nations and proclaimed by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[3]

"*Recalling* its relevant resolutions on the situation in the Palestinian and other Arab territories, occupied by Israel since 1967, including Jerusalem, and including its resolutions 446 (1979), 465 (1980), 497 (1981) and 592 (1986).

"*Recalling also* the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[1]

"*Gravely concerned and alarmed* by the deteriorating situation in Palestinian and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967, including Jerusalem,

"*Taking into account* the need to consider measures for the impartial protection of the Palestinian civilian population under Israeli occupation,

"*Considering* that the current policies and practices of Israel, the occupying Power, in the occupied territories are bound to have grave consequences for the endeavours to achieve comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East,

"1. *Strongly deplores* those policies and practices of Israel, the occupying Power, which violate the human rights of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories, and in particular the opening of fire by the Israeli army, resulting in the killing and wounding of defenceless Palestinian civilians;

"2. *Reaffirms* that the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, is applicable to the Palestinian and other

Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967, including Jerusalem;

"3. *Calls once again upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to abide immediately and scrupulously by the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, and to desist forthwith from its policies and practices that are in violation of the provisions of the Convention;

"4. *Calls furthermore* for the exercise of maximum restraint to contribute towards the establishment of peace;

"5. *Stresses* the urgent need to reach a just, durable and peaceful settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict;

"6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to examine the present situation in the occupied territories by all means available to him, and to submit a report no later than 20 January 1988 containing his recommendations on ways and means for ensuring the safety and protection of the Palestinian civilians under Israeli occupation;

"7. *Decides* to keep the situation in the Palestinian and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967, including Jerusalem, under review."

Resolutions 607 (1988) and 608 (1988), relating to Israel's deportation of Palestinian civilians from the occupied territories, were adopted on 5 and 14 January 1988 respectively. The present report is submitted in accordance with paragraph 6 of resolution 605 (1987).

2. In order to obtain information needed for the preparation of this report, I instructed Mr. Marrack Goulding, Under-Secretary-General for Special Political Affairs, to visit Israel and the occupied Palestinian territories. The purpose of this visit, which took place from 8 to 17 January 1988, was twofold: to examine on the spot the situation in the occupied territories and to explore ways and means I could consider recommending to the Security Council to ensure the safety and protection of the Palestinian population of the territories.

3. Mr. Goulding had meetings with Mr. Shimon Peres, Foreign Minister of Israel, and with Mr. Yitzhak Rabin, Defence Minister, who was accompanied by Mr. Shmuel Goren, Coordinator of Government Operations in the territories, on 11 and 12 January, respectively. Further meetings took place with Mr. Peres on 14 January (in connection with Israel's deportation of Palestinian civilians the previous day) and with Mr. Goren on 17 January.

4. The Israeli Ministers stated that, as had been made clear in the Security Council, they rejected resolution 605 (1987) because the Security Council had no role to play in the security of the occupied territories, for which Israel was exclusively responsible. As was well known, Israel did not accept the applicability of the Fourth Geneva Convention[1] in the territories. They had agreed to meet Mr. Goulding as a representative of the Secretary-General whom they regularly received and not in connection with the report requested from the Secretary-General in resolution 605 (1987). They said that Mr. Goulding was free to travel where he wished, except in areas which were under curfew or had been declared to be closed military areas, and to speak with whom he wished. It was, however, recommended that the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, and especially the refugee camps, be avoided and that contacts with Palestinians take place in Jerusalem.

5. As regards the situation in the occupied territories, the Israeli Ministers agreed that it was a serious one. The Israel Defence Forces (IDF) had been surprised by the extent of the disturbances. As a largely conscript army, trained to defend Israel against external attack, IDF lacked expertise in riot control. The Government of Israel regretted the civilian casualties that had occurred and was taking steps to minimize such casualties in the future. But the present disorder in the refugee camps could not be tolerated and firm measures would, if necessary, be taken to suppress it. A political solution had to be found to the underlying problem, and Israel remained committed to the search for a negotiated settlement. But, meanwhile, law and order had to be restored.

6. As the safety and protection of the residents of the refugee camps was a clear priority, I had of course instructed Mr. Goulding to visit some of the camps. In the event this proved difficult. Throughout the visit almost all the camps in the Gaza Strip were under curfew or had been declared to be closed military areas; the same was true of many of the camps on the West Bank.

7. On 12 January Mr. Goulding, who was accompanied by the Acting Director of Operations in Gaza of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), was denied access by IDF to Jabalia and Beach Camps in the Gaza Strip, on the grounds that the camps were a closed military area and under curfew, respectively. They themselves decided not to pursue a visit to a third camp, Maghazi, when they judged that there was a risk that their visit would lead to a confrontation between IDF, who were deployed in some strength at the camp entrance, and an excited and angry crowd just inside. The following day a successful two-hour visit was made to Rafah camp, also in the Gaza Strip, where Mr. Goulding and his party were welcomed by several hundred of the camp residents. The latter, however, felt provoked when an IDF patrol, including an armoured vehicle, approached the health centre where the visiting party was holding its meetings and a brief clash ensued, involving stone-throwing by young residents of the camp and the firing of tear gas and rubber bullets by IDF. Fortunately, there were no casualties. Further visits were paid, in the company of officials of the UNRWA West Bank operations, to Dheisheh Camp, near Bethlehem, and Balata Camp at Nablus, on 14 and 16 January respectively. The visit to Dheisheh was entirely peaceful and the visitors were able to talk to many of the refugees and tour the camp. The visit to Balata, however, had to be cut short after one hour when an IDF patrol, apparently involved in a separate incident, fired rubber bullets at the crowd accompanying the visitors, who at that point were touring the camp.

8. During these visits to refugee camps and in many meetings with groups and individuals elsewhere in the occupied territories, Mr. Goulding and his colleagues were able to discuss the situation in the territories with about 200 Palestinian men and women, of all ages and from all walks of life, ranging from intellectuals and elected mayors to the most deprived residents of the camps. All rejected the Israeli occupation of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and insisted that the Palestinian problem was not a problem of refugees but a political problem requiring a political solution. Priority, they said, had to be given to the negotiation of such a settlement and measures to alleviate the suffering of the civilian population should not be allowed to become a substitute for an urgent solution of the underlying political problem. All complained bitterly about Israeli practices in the occupied territories, especially the behaviour of the security forces, and about the Israeli settlements and the obstruction of Palestinian economic development. It was argued that these practices had to be made known to a world which, after 20 years, seemed to have forgotten the occupied territories. There was also much criticism of the failure of the States Mem-

bers of the United Nations to secure implementation of the dozens of resolutions adopted by the Security Council and the General Assembly, both on the situation in the territories and on the wider political issue of a just and lasting settlement.

9. Section I of the present report contains a brief examination of the situation in the occupied Palestinian territories. Section II discusses possible ways and means of ensuring the safety and protection of the civilian population. Section III contains some concluding remarks.

I. The situation in the occupied Palestinian territories

10. Resolution 605 (1987) was adopted on 22 December 1987, following two weeks of disturbances in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, and the Gaza Strip during which 18 Palestinians were killed and scores were injured by the Israeli security forces, who themselves suffered injuries from stones and petrol bombs. Since the resolution was adopted, the disturbances have continued and the Palestinian casualties have more than doubled, with further injuries on the Israeli side also.

11. In view of the widespread coverage that these events have received in the international press, it is not necessary to recapitulate in the present report all that has occurred during the past six weeks. It is apparent, however, that measures taken by the Israeli security forces to restore law and order in the occupied territories have not as yet succeeded. The atmosphere in the territories, and especially in the refugee camps, is marked by tension and unrest; commercial strikes are observed in almost all the towns, and most educational institutions remain shut. More than 2,000 Palestinians—many of them under the age of 16 and some as young as 11 or 12—have been detained since mid-December, and others have been placed under house or town arrest. Precise figures have not been published but it appears that several hundred of those detained have since been released. Four Palestinians were deported to Lebanon on 13 January, and five others have received deportation orders which are at present under appeal. Those most acutely affected by the disturbances have been the residents of the refugee camps, particularly those in the Gaza Strip, where normal life has been totally disrupted by curfews and the closing-off of the camps to non-residents, including relief workers.

12. Both Israelis and Palestinians told Mr. Goulding and his colleagues that these disturbances were not an isolated phenomenon. Although it had earlier been stated in Israel that they were orchestrated from the outset by the Palestine Liberation Organization and/or fundamentalist Islamic groups, Israeli Ministers said that they had come to the conclusion that they originated as a spontaneous outburst of protest. That this was the case was certainly the impression gained from the conversations which Mr. Goulding and his colleagues had with Palestinian inhabitants of the occupied territories. The disturbances were a reaction, supported by Palestinians of all age groups and all walks of life, to 20 years of occupation and to the lack of hope that it could be brought to an early end.

13. Without exception, the Palestinians consulted said that they rejected the Israeli occupation and complained bitterly about the practices of the Israeli security forces (which term includes IDF, the Border Police, the civilian police and the General Security Services (GSS), also known as Shin Beth). It was said that, in addition to harsh methods of riot control, random and capricious violence against individuals was normal (e.g. the beating of young bystanders who happened to be present at the scene of a stone-throwing incident or the beating, in front of his pupils, of a school teacher who refused to suspend his class to remove obstacles placed by others in the road outside). Equally common was the complaint (which was also made against officials of the Israeli Civilian Administration in the territories) that Palestinians were treated with a contempt and arrogance that seemed to be deliberately intended to humiliate them and undermine their dignity as human beings. Complaints were also made, especially in the Gaza Strip, about the inhumane manner in which curfews were enforced, e.g. the prevention of UNRWA ambulances from entering camps to collect civilians wounded in earlier disturbances. Another set of complaints related to allegations of routine violence in detention centres, as well as to the whole system of administrative detention. It was said that the purpose of interrogation was normally to extract a confession for use in subsequent proceedings in the military courts and that heavy physical and psychological pressure was used for this purpose by GSS, which used techniques (e.g. hooding) that left no permanent physical disfigurement.

14. In the time available, it was not possible to follow up any individual complaint in detail. But the persistence of these complaints and their ready corroboration by foreign observers (including the media) and by Palestinian professional people (some of whom said that they had themselves suffered at the hands of the security forces) give grounds for serious concern.

15. Other subjects of complaint were:

(*a*) The lack of outlets for political activity (there have been no elections since the municipal elections of 1976) and the tendency of the authorities to classify any expression of nationalist sentiment as "terrorist" activity, with consequent intervention of the security forces;

(*b*) The taking of land in the occupied territories, especially for Israeli settlements, and the privileged access that these settlements are given to water supplies;

(*c*) Deportations and other violations of the rights of the individual, including the blocking of family reunions;

(*d*) Interruption of education through the closing of schools and universities and, especially, the denial of laissez-passers for an adequate period to Palestinian students pursuing higher education in other countries;

(*e*) Shortcomings in the judicial system, especially the complexity of a system in which the legislation in force comes from such varied sources as the British Mandate, Egyptian and Jordanian laws and military orders (often not published) issued by Israel since 1967, the obstacles placed in the way of the defence, usually on security grounds, and the lack of a fair hearing for Palestinians in the higher Israeli courts;

(*f*) Heavy taxation, many of the proceeds of which benefit Israel and are not spent in the occupied territories (the budget for which is not published);

(*g*) Economic discrimination against the territories, with the purpose of hindering their agricultural and industrial development and keeping them as a captive market and source of cheap labour for Israel.

16. As in the case of the security forces' behaviour, many examples of the above practices were cited, not only by Palestinians but also by foreign observers. They have also been described in the publications of such research institutions as The West Bank Data Base Project and Al-Haq: Law in the Service of Man.

17. At the four meetings held with Israeli Ministers and officials, the latter rejected the complaints mentioned above, describing almost all of them as politically motivated exaggerations or distortions. They said that there had been great improvements in the economic and social situation in the

territories since 1967 especially as regards consumption and social services. They drew a favourable comparison between Israel's record and that of Egypt and Jordan in the 1948-1967 period. They agreed that more needed to be done to enhance the economic and social conditions of the civilian population but said that Israel had been disappointed by the paucity of the international community's response to its invitation to provide funds for the development of the territories.

18. In a conversation on 17 January, Mr. Goren said that the security forces had very strict orders against mistreatment of the civilian population; there were isolated cases in which these orders were not properly observed but such cases were severely dealt with by the Israeli authorities themselves. Mr. Goren offered to investigate any individual case that was brought to his attention. He also offered to take up any specific case of alleged obstruction of UNRWA activities by the security forces, though the latter had orders to co-ordinate on a regular basis with UNRWA over access for food and medical supplies to camps under curfew. On the economic questions, Mr. Goren said that Israel in fact spent more in the territories than it received in tax revenue and that health and education services there were better than the Palestinians would admit. Israel wanted foreign countries to contribute to the territories' development and would give them a free hand, subject only to security requirements and observance of Israeli procedures.

19. There is thus a conflict of evidence. In almost every case, one side's version of events is at variance with the other's. This illustrates the difficulty of conducting a rigorous examination of the situation in the occupied territories. For reasons it has expressed in the past, Israel has been reluctant to co-operate with bodies previously set up by the United Nations to investigate its practices in the occupied territories, including the commission established by Security Council resolution 446 (1979), and has consistently rejected their findings. But the evidence available from published sources and from conversations with Israelis, Palestinians and foreign observers confirms that the international community's concern about the situation in the occupied territories is fully justified.

II. Ways and means for ensuring the safety and protection of the Palestinian civilians under Israeli occupation

A. *Need for a political settlement*

20. Before exploring the ways and means that the Security Council might wish to consider for ensuring the safety and protection of the Palestinian civilians, one point of fundamental importance must be underlined. It is certainly necessary that more should be done to ensure the safety and protection of the civilian population. But such measures can only be palliatives. They cannot cure the underlying problem, which is the continuing occupation by Israel of the territories captured in the 1967 war. It was repeatedly emphasized by all shades of Palestinian opinion that there was no way in which the Israeli occupation could be made acceptable to the Palestinian people of the occupied territories. Equally, members of the Israeli Government stressed the need for a political solution. I strongly share that view. In the long run, the only certain way of ensuring the safety and protection of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories, and of the people of Israel, is the negotiation of a comprehensive, just and lasting settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict acceptable to all concerned. An urgent effort is required by the international community, led by the Security Council, to promote an effective negotiating process and to help create the conditions necessary for it to succeed.

B. *Fourth Geneva Convention*

21. A second point to be stressed at this stage is that the Fourth Geneva Convention, whose applicability to the occupied territories has repeatedly been reaffirmed by the Security Council, lays down the civilian population's entitlement to safety and protection. This is clearly stated in the first paragraph of article 27, which reads:

> "Protected persons are entitled, in all circumstances, to respect for their persons, their honour, their family rights, their religious convictions and practices, and their manners and customs. They shall at all times be humanely treated, and shall be protected especially against all acts of violence or threats thereof and against insults and public curiosity."

The responsibility of the occupying Power is underlined in article 29, which reads:

> "The Party to the conflict in whose hands protected persons may be, is responsible for the treatment accorded to them by its agents, irrespective of any individual responsibility which may be incurred."

22. Israeli violations of provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention have, since 1970, been frequently alluded to in the annual reports of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), which is the guardian of the Geneva Conventions of 1949 (see, for instance the ICRC annual report for 1986). They have also been the subject of numerous resolutions of the Security Council, e.g. 452 (1979), 465 (1980), 468 (1980), 469 (1980), 471 (1980), 476 (1980) and 478 (1980). Examples, together with the articles of the Fourth Geneva Convention which they offend, are as follows:

(*a*) Attempts to alter the status of Jerusalem (article 47);

(*b*) The establishment of Israeli settlements in the occupied territories (article 49, sixth para.);

(*c*) Deportations of Palestinian civilians from the occupied territories (article 49, first para.);

(*d*) Collective punishments, e.g. curfews applied to whole districts (article 33);

(*e*) Destruction of houses (article 53).

There is also evidence that, in dealing with demonstrations and other disturbances, IDF has used disproportionate force, leading to fatal casualties which could be avoided if less harsh measures were employed. As noted in paragraph 14 above, there are grounds for serious concern about whether the practices of the Israeli security forces are always consistent with article 32 of the Convention.

23. Israel has consistently taken the position that it does not accept formally the *de jure* applicability of the Fourth Geneva Convention but that it has decided since 1967 to act in *de facto* accordance with "the humanitarian provisions" of that Convention. Israel justifies this position by the argument that the Convention applies only where the Power ousted from the territory in question was a legitimate sovereign and that neither Jordan nor Egypt was the sovereign power, in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip respectively, during the years preceding the 1967 war (see, for instance, the statement by the Permanent Representative of Israel in the Security Council on 16 December 1987—2774th meeting). Israel also sometimes justifies individual violations of the Fourth Convention (e.g. deportations) by reference to legislation that was in force in what are now the occupied territories during the British Mandate and/or the period of Egyptian/Jordanian control, from 1948 to 1967.

24. The Israeli position is not accepted by ICRC, nor has it been endorsed by the other High Contracting Parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention. Under that Convention, each Contracting State undertakes a series of unilateral engagements, *vis-à-vis* itself and at the same time *vis-à-vis* the others, of legal obligations to protect those civilians who are found in occupied territories following the outbreak of hostilities. This is why article 1 states that "The High Contracting Parties undertake to respect and to ensure respect for the present Convention *in all circumstances*" (emphasis added). The phrase "in all circumstances" is intended to include declared or undeclared war, recognized or unrecognized state of war, partial or total occupation with or without armed resistance, or even under certain circumstances when the opponent is not a contracting party (see article 2).

25. The Convention becomes automatically applicable upon the outbreak of hostilities, and its application in territories occupied by the belligerents is not subject to the requirement that the ousted Power is the legitimate sovereign of the territories lost. Humanitarian considerations are the fundamental basis of the Geneva Conventions, and it is for this reason that even in the case of armed conflict not of an international character (e.g. civil war) the Contracting States are legally bound under the Convention to apply, as a minimum, certain provisions of a humanitarian character.

26. Several Security Council and General Assembly resolutions (including Council resolution 242 (1967)) have declared the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by war and insisted on Israel's withdrawal from territories occupied since the 1967 war. The Security Council and the General Assembly have consistently maintained since 1967 that the territories that came under Israeli control during the 1967 war are "occupied territories" within the meaning of the Fourth Geneva Convention. Both the Council and the Assembly have also stated in numerous resolutions that the Fourth Geneva Convention applies to these occupied territories. Accordingly, even though Israel does not accept the *de jure* applicability of the Fourth Geneva Convention, the *opinio juris* of the world community is that it must be applied.

27. The most effective way, pending a political settlement, of ensuring the safety and protection of the civilian population of the occupied territories would thus be for Israel to apply in full the provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention. To this end, I recommend that the Security Council should consider making a solemn appeal to all the High Contracting Parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention that have diplomatic relations with Israel, drawing their attention to their obligation under article 1 of the Convention to "ensure respect for the present Convention in all circumstances" and urging them to use all the means at their disposal to persuade the Government of Israel to change its position as regards the applicability of the Convention. Meanwhile, Israel could introduce the following measures, which are urgently needed:

(*a*) The dissemination of, and training of IDF personnel in, the rules of international humanitarian law (which is an obligation under the Convention);

(*b*) Orders to IDF to assist, in all circumstances, the rapid evacuation to medical care of persons wounded in disturbances and to ensure that the efficient functioning of hospitals and their staff is not interrupted by military activities;

(*c*) Orders to IDF not to obstruct the delivery of essential food and medical supplies to the civilian population.

C. *Different types of "protection"*

28. While continuing to insist that responsibility for protection of the civilian population of the occupied territories rests with the occupying Power, the Security Council may wish to consider what other ways and means might be available to the international community, without prejudice to that fundamental principle, in order to help ensure the civilian population's protection. Before addressing that question, it may be appropriate to analyse the different concepts that can be meant by "protection". They seem to be four:

(*a*) "Protection" can mean physical protection, i.e. the provision of armed forces to deter, and if necessary fight, any threats to the safety of the protected persons;

(*b*) "Protection" can mean legal protection, i.e. intervention with the security and judicial authorities, as well as the political instances, of the occupying Power, by an outside agency in order to ensure just treatment of an individual or group of individuals;

(*c*) "Protection" can also take a less well-defined form, called in this report "general assistance", in which an outside agency intervenes with the authorities of the occupying Power to help individuals or groups of individuals to resist violations of their rights (e.g. land confiscations) and to cope with the day-to-day difficulties of life under occupation, such as security restrictions, curfews, harassment, bureaucratic difficulties and so on;

(*d*) Finally, there is the somewhat intangible "protection" afforded by outside agencies, including especially the international media, whose mere presence and readiness to publish what they observe may have a beneficial effect for all concerned; in this report this type of protection is called "protection by publicity".

D. *Ways and means available to the international community to help ensure the civilian population's protection*

29. As regards *physical protection*, several of the Palestinians consulted by Mr. Goulding, especially in the refugee camps, asked that United Nations forces be deployed in the occupied territories, either to protect the inhabitants against the Israeli security forces or to replace the latter completely in the populated areas. The latter possibility was mentioned in the Security Council's debate preceding the adoption of resolution 605 (1987). I have given careful thought to both possibilities, but they seem to present very real difficulties at this time.

30. First, the Fourth Geneva Convention gives the occupying Power the right to

> "subject the population of the occupied territory to provisions which are essential to enable the Occupying Power to fulfil its obligations under the present Convention, to maintain the orderly government of the territory, and to ensure the security of the Occupying Power, of the members and property of the occupying forces or administration, and likewise of the establishments and lines of communication used by them" (article 64, para. 2).

This in effect makes the occupying Power responsible for the maintenance of law and order. It is also, as discussed above, responsible for protecting the civilian population. The introduction of other forces into the occupied territories to provide physical protection would thus detract from the occupying Power's responsibilities under the Fourth Geneva Convention.

31. Secondly, it is a principle of United Nations peacekeeping operations that they require the prior consent of the parties to the conflict concerned. The introduction of United Nations forces into the occupied territories (unless the Se-

curity Council had decided to take enforcement action under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations) would thus require the consent of the Government of Israel. That Government has, however, stated that it will not agree to any involvement of United Nations military personnel in the security of the occupied territories.

32. Unless there is a change in Israel's position, the deployment of United Nations forces in the territories is thus not practicable at present. This idea should not, however, be lost sight of. Israel has in the past accepted international forces in other contexts of the Arab-Israeli conflict, and these have played a valuable role in the implementation of interim or permanent agreements. Such forces could again be a valuable ingredient in the implementation of a negotiated settlement of the conflict or in transitional arrangements that might be agreed upon for the occupied territories.

33. Reference has also been made to the possible deployment of United Nations military observers in the occupied territories. They would not, however, be able to provide physical protection and their possible role is therefore discussed in paragraph 42 below.

34. A measure of *legal protection* is nevertheless provided to the population of the occupied territories by ICRC. As is clear from its annual reports, ICRC enjoys cooperation from the occupying Power in its efforts to protect detained persons, but the Israeli authorities usually disallow interventions by ICRC with regard to measures for the maintenance of law and order and aspects of the administration of the occupied territories which violate the provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention.

35. ICRC is to be commended for its activities in the occupied territories, and the High Contracting Parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention may wish to include in the diplomatic initiative put forward in paragraph 27 above an expression of appreciation for the co-operation extended to ICRC by Israel and of hope that this will be maintained and enlarged.

36. The Security Council may also wish to urge Member States to respond generously if ICRC should appeal for funds to finance the extra activities it is undertaking in the occupied territories in response to the recent very large increase in the number of detained persons.

37. I come now to the type of protection described as *general assistance* in paragraph 28 above. Various agencies are already active in this field. As far as the registered refugees are concerned, UNRWA has the leading role and provides a wide variety of assistance and protection (in addition, of course, to its main function of providing education, health and relief services); in the Gaza Strip, in particular, it provides indispensable support to the refugees in their day-to-day efforts to cope with living under occupation. ICRC also assists, especially with the families of detainees. Many voluntary agencies, Palestinian and international, also play a part. It was nevertheless argued by many of the Palestinians and foreign relief workers who were consulted that the international community should do more.

38. In the case of the registered refugees, who number 818,983, or about 55 per cent of the Palestinian population of the occupied territories, UNRWA is clearly best placed to provide additional general assistance. UNRWA has been established on the ground for nearly 40 years; it knows well the refugees' problems; it is accepted by the Israeli authorities on the basis of an agreement signed in 1967; and it is trusted by the refugees. However, the number of UNRWA international staff in the field has declined over the years. Before the recent disturbances began, there were only 9 international staff in the West Bank (373,586 refugees and 19 camps) and only 6 in the Gaza Strip (445,397 refugees and 8 camps). In paying tribute to the invaluable service that UNRWA Palestinian staff have been rendering to the refugees in very difficult circumstances, I believe that international staff can at present play an especially valuable role. It is usually easier for them to gain access to Israeli authorities in emergency situations, and their mere presence at points of confrontation has a significant impact on how the civilian population (including UNRWA Palestinian staff) is treated by the security forces and helps it psychologically by making it feel less exposed.

39. I have therefore asked the Commissioner-General of UNRWA to examine the addition to the UNRWA establishment in the occupied territories of extra international staff, within UNRWA existing administrative structures, to improve the general assistance provided to the refugee population. It would be for the Commissioner-General to decide the number and location of these additional international staff, in the light of the perceived need and the resources available. I would also urge Member States to respond generously to the appeal the Commissioner-General would have to make for funds to finance these additional staff.

40. It is also essential that Israel should honour UNRWA privileges and immunities in full, especially the right of its personnel to freedom of movement in all circumstances and the inviolability of its premises and installations, and to provide access at all times to responsible officials of the occupying administration. Mr. Goulding and his colleagues were witnesses of painful situations in the Gaza Strip where the curfews imposed by IDF had made it impossible, or at best difficult and dangerous, for UNRWA to evacuate the wounded and sick to hospital or to deliver food to the camps.

41. In making these observations relating to UNRWA, I am conscious of the need not to neglect those Palestinians in the occupied territories who are not registered refugees (about one third of the Palestinian population in Gaza and two thirds in the West Bank). Their economic and social circumstances are in general superior to those of the refugees, especially the camp residents, but they face the same political frustrations as the latter, are equally vulnerable to the security authorities and also suffer from the economic and administrative aspects of the occupation. They benefit from the activities of ICRC (which makes no distinction between refugees and non-refugees) and various voluntary agencies, but are normally excluded from UNRWA mandate. It seems desirable in present circumstances that, as on certain occasions in the past, the Commissioner-General should be permitted to provide humanitarian assistance as far as practicable, on an emergency basis and as a temporary measure, to non-refugees who are in serious need of assistance because of the recent disturbances.

42. Reference has been made in paragraph 33 above to the possible deployment of United Nations military observers. Some of the Palestinians consulted favoured this measure as a way of monitoring (and hopefully restraining) the activities of the Israeli security forces and of providing general assistance to the civilian population. It is true that such observers could provide expert information on military matters (though they would need at least some co-operation from the occupying Power for this purpose). But in other respects, especially their short tours of duty and lack of familiarity with the territories, they are not well placed to provide general assistance of an essentially civilian character. In any case, Israel, whose consent would be necessary, has so far expressed firm opposition to any such proposal.

43. As regards *protection by publicity*, great emphasis was laid by Palestinians on the need to publicize the situa-

tion in the occupied territories. It was argued that more publicity should be given and that this would have a beneficial influence both on Israel's practices in the territories and on her readiness to negotiate a political settlement. Recent developments in the territories have in fact been fully reported by the Israeli and international media, and it is of great importance that the latter should continue to have unhindered access to events.

44. Some of the Palestinians consulted suggested that the Secretary-General might appoint a kind of United Nations ombudsman to reside in the occupied territories. Such an appointment could be a valuable step if Israel was ready to co-operate fully with the official concerned and use his or her good offices in handling the many problems to which the occupation gives rise. This idea is in the same category as other possibilities, such as United Nations trusteeship or a United Nations interim administration, which could be of potential value in the future. But the practicability of all these ideas depends on the full consent and co-operation of Israel.

E. *Economic and social conditions of the population of the occupied territories*

45. Although it is strictly outside the "safety and protection" referred to in paragraph 6 of resolution 605 (1987), I should like to take the opportunity of this report to make two observations relating to the economic and social conditions in which the population of the occupied territories lives.

46. The first relates to the refugee camps. The recent disturbances have attracted world attention to the squalid living conditions in many of the camps, especially in the Gaza Strip, resulting from the lack of such basic amenities as paved roads, sewage, water, lighting and housing of a minimum standard. The Commissioner-General of UNRWA has also referred in his last report[4] to the urgent need to rehabilitate many UNRWA installations, such as schools, health centres and food distribution centres.

47. In the past, the refugees have sometimes expressed reservations about measures to improve the infrastructure of the camps, for fear that these would make the camps more permanent and thus conflict with their insistence on a political settlement in accordance with United Nations resolutions. This matter was therefore discussed with most of the Palestinians consulted. Their reaction was that they would welcome steps to improve conditions in the camps provided that:

(*a*) It was made absolutely clear that this was a temporary measure, pending a comprehensive political settlement, and not a substitute for such a settlement;

(*b*) That the work was done by UNRWA.

48. In these circumstances, I have asked the Commissioner-General of UNRWA to prepare urgently proposals for improving the infrastructure of the camps and to seek the necessary funds. I would again urge Member States to respond generously to such a request.

49. My second observation relates to the wider economic situation in the occupied territories. Reference has been made in paragraph 15 above to the conviction of the Palestinian population that Israeli policy is deliberately to obstruct the economic development of the territories. Many examples were given to corroborate this assertion. Israeli Ministers and officials, however, insisted that it was unfounded and that Israel welcomed foreign assistance for the development of the territories provided only that each project complied with Israel's security requirements, which were overriding, and with Israeli procedures. Many of the Palestinians consulted expressed the hope that a concerted international effort could be undertaken to revive the territories' economy, perhaps initially through an expansion of the existing programme of the United Nations Development Programme in the territories. I have asked the Administrator of UNDP to study this possibility.

III. Concluding remarks

50. The Israeli authorities have stated on numerous occasions in recent weeks that security in the occupied territories remains their exclusive responsibility. The Security Council, for its part, has repeatedly reaffirmed the applicability to the occupied territories of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949. While that Convention makes the occupying Power responsible for maintaining law and order, its *raison d'être* is the safety and protection of the civilian population, for which the occupying Power is no less responsible.

51. My principal recommendation in this area is that the international community should make a concerted effort to persuade Israel to accept the *de jure* applicability of the Fourth Geneva Convention to the occupied territories and to correct its practices in order to comply fully with that Convention. This report also makes recommendations and describes certain steps which I am taking, within existing arrangements, to improve the safety and protection accorded to the population of the territories by the international community.

52. It cannot be emphasized too strongly, however, that such measures to enhance the safety and protection of the Palestinian people of the territories, urgently required though they are, will neither remove the causes of the tragic events which prompted Security Council resolution 605 (1987) nor bring peace to the region. The unrest of the past six weeks has been an expression of the despair and hopelessness felt by the population of the occupied territories, more than half of whom have known nothing but an occupation that denies what they consider to be their legitimate rights. The result is a tragedy for both sides. Nothing illustrates this more clearly than the daily sight of young unarmed Palestinians in confrontation with Israeli soldiers of their own age.

53. The underlying problem can only be resolved through a political settlement which responds both to the refusal of the Palestinian population of the territories to accept a future under Israeli occupation and to Israel's determination to ensure its security and the well-being of its people. I continue to believe that this should be achieved through a comprehensive, just and lasting settlement based on Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973) and taking fully into account the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, including self-determination. Such a settlement should be negotiated by means of an international conference under United Nations auspices, with the participation of all the parties concerned. The history of the Arab-Israeli conflict, from 1948 onwards, has repeatedly shown that there are many ways in which the United Nations can contribute impartially both to the negotiation of agreements and to their implementation. Allusion has been made in this report to the possible use of United Nations forces or other interim arrangements as progress is made towards a comprehensive settlement.

54. The negotiation of a settlement will, of course, be exceptionally difficult, for it will require all concerned to move from positions to which they are at present very strongly attached. I am conscious of the great complexity of the choices which confront them, and I should like to take this opportunity to appeal to them to exercise restraint and to bring about that change of attitudes which will be necessary

if a settlement is to be negotiated. Each side must put aside the often justified resentment it feels at past wrongs and understand better the legitimate interests and legitimate grievances of the other. Such understanding is not assisted by invective and abuse nor by sheltering behind the illusion that the other side does not exist. Equally, I appeal to the international community to help, both by reducing the virulence of debates on the Arab-Israeli conflict and by consciously acting in a manner which promotes mutual understanding.

55. As stated earlier in this report, I believe that an urgent effort is required by the international community, led by the Security Council, to promote an effective negotiating process. This is what the Charter requires, and it is the fundamental recommendation in this report. I remain personally committed to the search for a settlement and will contribute in any way that I can to that objective. In the coming weeks I intend to explore actively with the parties and with the members of the Council, especially its permanent members, how the present impasse in the peace process can be unblocked. After the recent dramatic demonstration of the dangers and suffering inherent in the status quo, I hope that all concerned will join in an effort to reinvigorate the search for a comprehensive, just and lasting settlement. This alone will secure the interests of both the Israeli and the Palestinian peoples and enable them to live in peace with each other.

DOCUMENT S/19444

Letter dated 21 January 1988 from the representative of Iraq to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Arabic*]
[*21 January 1988*]

On instructions from my Government and further to our many previous letters—the most recent being that contained in document S/19435—concerning the criminal Iranian régime's persistence in bombing purely residential areas in Iraq, I have the honour to inform you that on 20 January 1988, the armed forces of that régime committed the following act of aggression:

Time	*Place*	*Casualties and damage*
1600 to 1700	Sulaymaniyah: Lower Shandari region (Halabja district)	2 civilians wounded, including 1 child

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ismat KITTANI
Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19445

Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon for the period from 25 July 1987 to 22 January 1988

[*Original: English*]
[*22 January 1988*]

INTRODUCTION

1. In its resolution 599 (1987) of 31 July 1987, the Security Council decided to extend the mandate of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) for a further interim period of six months, until 31 January 1988. The Council also reiterated its strong support for the territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence of Lebanon within its internationally recognized boundaries; re-emphasized the terms of reference and general guidelines of the Force as stated in the report of the Secretary-General of 19 March 1978 [*S/12611*], approved by resolution 426 (1978), and called upon all parties concerned to co-operate fully with the Force for the full implementation of its mandate; and reiterated that UNIFIL should fully implement its mandate as defined in resolutions 425 (1978), 426 (1978) and all other relevant resolutions. The Council requested the Secretary-General to continue consultations with the Government of Lebanon and other parties directly concerned on the implementation of the resolution and to report to the Council thereon.

2. On 5 October 1987, I submitted to the Security Council a special report following two grave incidents which resulted in the death of two members of the Nepalese contingent of UNIFIL [*S/19175*]. On 24 November, I wrote to the President of the Security Council in pursuance of a request that I provide information on the question of Israeli encroachments on the Israel-Lebanon border (see S/19318).

Organization of the Force

3. As of January 1988, the composition of UNIFIL was as follows:

Military personnel

Fiji		
HQ UNIFIL	7	
Infantry battalion	625	
Force mobile reserve	27	
Military police	9	668
Finland		
HQ UNIFIL	17	
Infantry battalion	511	
Force mobile reserve	15	
Military police	8	551
France		
HQ UNIFIL	26	
Composite battalion (maintenance company, defence company, armoured escort company)	469	
Military police	10	505
Ghana		
HQ UNIFIL	41	
Infantry battalion	822	
Force mobile reserve	21	
Military police	7	891
Ireland		
HQ UNIFIL	13	
Infantry battalion	650	
Force mobile reserve	17	
HQ Camp Command	55	
Military police	12	747
Italy		
HQ UNIFIL	4	
Helicopter unit	47	51
Nepal		
HQ UNIFIL	19	
Infantry battalion	797	
Force mobile reserve	28	
Military police	5	849
Norway		
UNIFIL	33	
Infantry battalion	673	
Force mobile reserve	27	
Maintenance company	167	
Military police	15	915
Sweden		
HQ UNIFIL	16	
Logistic battalion	605	
Force mobile reserve	5	
Military police	8	634
TOTAL		5 811

The deployment of UNIFIL as of January 1988 is shown on the annexed map, which has been revised to reflect more accurately the situation in the UNIFIL area (it should be noted that areas under Israeli control north of the UNIFIL area are not shown).

4. In addition to the above personnel, UNIFIL was assisted by 79 military observers from the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO). They manned the five observation posts along the Lebanese side of the Israel-Lebanon armistice demarcation line and a post at Château de Beaufort. They also operated eight mobile teams in the area of operation. These unarmed officers are organized as Observer Group Lebanon and are under the operational control of the Commander of UNIFIL, Major-General Gustav Hägglund.

5. The Lebanese army unit serving with UNIFIL maintained a strength of 128 all ranks. The bulk of the unit was stationed at Tyre and small elements were stationed at Arzun, Al Yatun and Qana.

6. Logistic support for UNIFIL was provided by the Swedish logistic battalion, elements of the French composite battalion, the Norwegian maintenance company and the Italian helicopter unit, as well as certain civilian sections (notably those responsible for communications and vehicle maintenance). The Ghanaian engineer company was incorporated in the Ghanaian infantry battalion. During the period covered by the present report, the Government of France carried out its decision (see S/18990, para. 5) to withdraw the explosive ordnance detachment which formed part of the French composite battalion and was responsible for mine clearing and defusing or destroying explosive devices and ordnance. Regrettably, my efforts to obtain a replacement for this important unit have so far not been successful. I have therefore asked the Governments contributing troops to the Force to strengthen the capacity of their units to deal with explosives, since mines, unexploded ammunition and other explosives continue to be a danger to UNIFIL personnel as well as to the civilian population in the area.

7. During the reporting period, UNIFIL continued to give high priority to the programme of security measures that was initiated in September 1986. Much of this effort was concentrated in the Nepalese battalion sector in order to improve the security of positions that came frequently under fire. The Force Mobile Reserve, a composite mechanized company comprising elements from seven contingents (Fiji, Finland, Ghana, Ireland, Nepal, Norway and Sweden) functioned effectively as an integrated unit and was deployed during periods of tension and used for special tasks. Efforts continue to arrange for the provision of the six remaining armoured vehicles required for the unit.

8. In July 1987, I reported that UNIFIL was having difficulty in obtaining the land and buildings it needed because payment of the rents, for which the Lebanese authorities are responsible, had not been made since 1984 (see S/18990, para. 7). In August, Lebanese officials surveyed the properties concerned to determine the level of remuneration. In December, the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies allocated funds for this purpose, and it is hoped that these funds will be disbursed without further delay.

9. During the period under review, seven members of the Force lost their lives. These included two Nepalese soldiers killed by hostile firing (see paras. 12 and 17 below) and two French, one Irish, one Nepalese and one Swedish soldier who died as a result of accidents or from other causes. In addition, an Australian military observer from UNTSO assigned to OGL was killed by a mine and a Canadian observer was severely injured in the same incident (see para. 18 below). Furthermore, 11 soldiers were wounded by hostile action. Since the establishment of UNIFIL, 151 members of the Force have died, 60 of them as a result of firing and mine or bomb explosions, 63 in accidents and 28 from other causes. More than 200 have been wounded by firing and mine or bomb explosions.

Situation in the UNIFIL area

10. The situation in the UNIFIL area remained essentially unchanged. Israel continued to maintain in southern Lebanon its "security zone", which is manned by the Israel Defence Forces (IDF) and the so-called "South Lebanon Army" (SLA). The boundaries of the "security zone" have not been defined but are in effect determined by the forward positions of IDF and SLA. The "security zone" includes the area adjacent to the international border, parts of the Nepalese, Irish and Finnish battalion sectors, the entire Norwegian battalion sector and sizeable areas to the north of the

UNIFIL area of operation. Within the UNIFIL area, IDF and SLA maintained a total of 57 positions, 15 of which were located within the battalion sectors. Of these, 14 were manned permanently. During the reporting period, three IDF/SLA positions were closed in the Nepalese battalion sector and one was closed in the Finnish battalion sector. Those IDF/SLA positions which lie within the area of operation are indicated on the annexed map.

11. Armed resistance groups continued to launch frequent operations against IDF and SLA using small arms, rocket-propelled grenades, rockets and mortars, as well as mines and roadside bombs. UNIFIL recorded 20 such operations in August, 10 in September, 12 in October, 5 in November, 13 in December 1987 and 9 in the first half of January 1988 against positions located within its area of deployment. Many more operations were reported from those parts of the "security zone" where UNIFIL is not deployed. In the UNIFIL area, most of the resistance operations remained limited in scope and involved mainly the use of mines or bombs and firing at IDF/SLA positions. However, in two cases, attacks were carried out by armed elements estimated to number up to 200 men (see paras. 12 and 14 below).

12. Until the middle of October, most of the resistance operations in the UNIFIL area were directed against two adjacent SLA positions on Tallet Huqban which overlook the villages of Kafra and Yatar in the Nepalese battalion sector. On numerous instances the personnel in those positions fired at civilian as well as UNIFIL targets within their range. During the second half of August, 13 women and children were injured by unprovoked firing from those positions. In some instances local armed elements retaliated, notably on 29 August when an estimated 200 armed elements infiltrated the area and attacked the positions on Tallet Huqban with mortars, rocket-propelled grenades and machine guns. This attack followed the wounding of a woman and six children by unprovoked SLA fire in two separate incidents the previous day. IDF/SLA responded with artillery, tanks, heavy mortars and helicopter gunships, and the exchange of fire between both sides lasted several hours. On 4 October, a Nepalese soldier was killed by firing from Tallet Huqban (see S/19175, para. 3).

13. On 14 October, IDF/SLA evacuated the two positions on Tallet Huqban and UNIFIL occupied one of them. The other position, which had been heavily mined by IDF, was left vacant. For a few days there was tension between local groups as they tried to gain control of that position. One group made an attempt to enter the position but failed. Since then, the sector has remained quiet and an estimated 4,000 to 5,000 persons have returned to their homes in Kafra and Yatar. UNIFIL assisted their return and helped to repair an electric power line and a large water reservoir serving 24 villages which had been damaged in the fighting.

14. After the departure of IDF/SLA from Tallet Huqban, the focus of the resistance attacks in the UNIFIL area shifted to the IDF/SLA positions in the Irish battalion sector. In the early hours of 4 November, an estimated 130 armed elements launched a co-ordinated attack on the SLA position south of Brashit and occupied it temporarily.

15. IDF/SLA continued to fire frequently from their positions or when on patrol. When attacked, they generally responded with heavy artillery, tank and mortar shelling; helicopter gunships were also employed. After the large attack mentioned in the preceding paragraph, such firing increased significantly in the Irish battalion sector, including firing into nearby villages, usually as retaliation to attacks by armed elements. At the same time, firing by IDF/SLA at or near UNIFIL positions increased also in that sector. In some cases, this happened when IDF/SLA were responding to attacks by armed elements, but the firing was also frequently unprovoked and, apparently, deliberate. During the period under review, UNIFIL protested about some 300 unprovoked firings to the Israeli military authorities.

16. The Norwegian battalion sector had in the past been generally quiet except for occasional friction between IDF/SLA and UNIFIL. The area offers few targets for attacks by armed resistance groups, since the four IDF positions in the sector are on its fringes, three of them on Mount Hermon close to the border between Lebanon and Syrian territory occupied by Israel. Although the sector is entirely within the "security zone", it was seldom patrolled by IDF, which furthermore did not challenge the UNIFIL policy of preventing independent SLA patrols. At the beginning of August, the situation changed: IDF asserted its intention to operate in the sector as elsewhere in the area under its control, and SLA personnel increasingly objected to the controls at UNIFIL checkpoints and started to harass UNIFIL positions. As a result, there were a number of incidents, including the shelling of a Norwegian patrol by an IDF tank on 3 August and the forced entry into UNIFIL positions of SLA personnel on 28 and 29 August and on 19 November. The latter incident arose from an altercation at checkpoint 4-8 during which the Norwegian sentries fired at a vehicle, slightly injuring one of the passengers. The incident was defused after contacts with IDF.

17. There were also a number of incidents between UNIFIL and armed elements. The most serious of these occurred on 25 August, when a Nepalese soldier was killed and three others were wounded in an ambush by unidentified assailants west of Kafra (see S/19175, para. 2). On 32 occasions during the reporting period, unidentified armed elements fired at or close to UNIFIL positions.

18. Another serious incident occured on 12 January 1988, when a vehicle occupied by two military observers of OGL on patrol west of the village of Shama, in the "security zone", hit a land mine. One of the observers, an Australian captain, was killed and the second member of the team, a Canadian major, was seriously injured.

19. As a result of the continuing decline of the Lebanese economy, there has been an increase in attempts to steal goods from UNIFIL. In several cases, UNIFIL sentries had to fire warning shots to repel persons trying to enter a position. On 4 September, a number of armed persons entered checkpoint 5-13. There was an exchange of fire, during which a Nepalese sentry was injured. The assailants managed to take a number of items which were, however, recovered by Amal and returned to UNIFIL.

20. UNIFIL continued to co-operate with the Lebanese authorities, United Nations agencies and programmes, the International Committee of the Red Cross and non-governmental organizations in extending humanitarian assistance to the local population. In addition, troop-contributing Governments funded assistance to medical and welfare institutions and schools in the respective battalion sectors. As before, a large number of Lebanese civilians were treated at UNIFIL medical centres and some 3,000 were treated at the UNIFIL hospital at Naqoura, including more than 250 in-patients.

FINANCIAL ASPECTS

21. By its resolution 42/223 of 21 December 1987, the General Assembly authorized the Secretary-General to enter into commitments for UNIFIL at a rate not to exceed $11,765,000 gross ($11,618,000 net) per month for the 12-month period beginning 1 February 1988, should the Secu-

rity Council decide to continue the Force beyond the period of six months authorized under its resolution 599 (1987). Should the Council decide to extend UNIFIL beyond its current mandate period, the costs to the United Nations for maintaining the Force during the extension period will be within the commitment authorized by the Assembly in its resolution 42/223, assuming a maximum force strength of 5,850 and continuance of its existing responsibilities.

22. In paragraph 24 of my report of 24 July 1987 [*S/18990*], I drew to the Council's attention the serious financial situation faced by the Force. I regret to have to report that the situation has not changed and, in fact, has continued to deteriorate. UNIFIL has always encountered difficulty in meeting its expenses, particularly as regards the reimbursement of troop costs at the full rate set by the General Assembly. This has been due to a shortfall in the UNIFIL Special Account resulting from the non-payment of assessed contributions, in whole or in part, by certain Member States. As at 31 December 1987, outstanding contributions to the UNIFIL Special Account from various Member States totalling $311.8 million remained unpaid. Consequently, reimbursement to the troop-contributing Governments has continued at the reduced rate of $600 per person per month.

OBSERVATIONS

23. Once again, I have to report to the Security Council that, despite efforts at all levels, UNIFIL has been prevented from making further progress towards implementing fully the objectives of Security Council resolution 425 (1978).

24. As the Council is well aware, it was in March 1978 that UNIFIL was set up by resolution 425 (1978) for the purpose of confirming the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from Lebanese territory, restoring international peace and security and assisting the Government of Lebanon in ensuring the return of its effective authority in the area. Ten years later, I regret to say that the conditions still do not exist for UNIFIL to perform its functions fully or fulfil its mandate completely. Although the circumstances under which UNIFIL was established have changed and there exists today a more complex situation, the objectives set by the Security Council in resolution 425 (1978) remain valid. The Lebanese authorities maintain the position that Israel should withdraw completely and allow UNIFIL to deploy to the international border.

25. Israel continues to maintain in southern Lebanon a "security zone" with its own forces and those of SLA. The revised map attached to this report shows more clearly than before the extent of the "security zone" in UNIFIL's area. According to the Israeli authorities, this is a temporary arrangement, governed by their security concerns in the light of the situation existing in southern Lebanon and the rest of the country. They say that in the prevailing circumstances they cannot allow the deployment of UNIFIL to the border as there is no central government in Beirut able to exercise effective authority throughout the area. In their view, UNIFIL as a peace-keeping force is not able under its present terms of reference to assume such responsibility. It bears repeating here that UNIFIL cannot implement its mandate successfully without the full co-operation of the Israeli authorities, whose position is thus an essential factor.

26. During the period under review, the level of violence in southern Lebanon has been limited to some extent, particularly, I believe, because of the presence of UNIFIL. Despite the difficulties it has had to face, UNIFIL has continued to try to consolidate its position. The most significant and positive development during this period has been the withdrawal of IDF/SLA from Tallet Huqban and the subsequent return of thousands of inhabitants to Yatar and Kafra. Since then, UNIFIL has been able, thanks to the co-operation of the local leaders and inhabitants, to maintain calm in the area. This shows, in a limited way, the positive role that UNIFIL can play in restoring peace and security, provided it has the co-operation of the parties. As I have stated in previous reports, although UNIFIL has not been able to implement fully the mandate entrusted to it by the Security Council, there is no doubt in my mind that the Force is an extremely important factor in whatever peace and normality exists in southern Lebanon. It represents Lebanese legality in the area as well as the commitment of the United Nations to support the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Lebanon. It also underlines the resolve of the international community to help to bring about the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from Lebanese territory as a step towards the restoration of international peace and security in the area.

27. I have received a letter from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon [*S/19440*] conveying the Lebanese authorities' request for the extension of the mandate of UNIFIL for a further period of six months in the following terms:

> "I have the honour to inform you that the Government of Lebanon has decided to request the Security Council to extend the mandate of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), which expires on 31 January 1988, for a further period of six months, on the basis of the provisions of Security Council resolutions 425 (1978), 426 (1978), 501 (1982), 508 (1982), 509 (1982) and 520 (1982) and of other relevant resolutions and decisions of the Security Council.
>
> "The Government of Lebanon, while calling for the immediate implementation of the above-mentioned resolutions, would like to reaffirm the terms of the mandate of UNIFIL as laid down in resolutions 425 (1978) and 426 (1978), the report of the Secretary-General contained in document S/12611 of 19 March 1978, and resolutions 501 (1982) and 509 (1982).
>
> "I should like to assure you that my Government remains persuaded that, in spite of the difficult conditions in south Lebanon, the presence of UNIFIL in Lebanon continues to be highly necessary and constitutes an important factor of stability and an international commitment to the upholding of the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Lebanon."

28. Although the state of affairs in which the Force finds itself 10 years after its establishment is very unsatisfactory and contrary to the expectations of the Council, I feel obliged to support this Lebanese request. UNIFIL is an important mechanism for conflict control in a very volatile situation which, without it, could quickly escalate into a wider conflict. I know that the Security Council is fully aware of the important role being played by UNIFIL. So are the troop-contributing countries which, in spite of the difficulties, risks and expense involved, have continued to make troops available.

29. I would like again to pay tribute here to the selflessness and dedication of the troop contributors who have continued to respond so generously to the Council's requests. Without their continuing support, it would not have been possible to maintain the Force in such difficult conditions. It remains a matter of great concern that, because of the non-payment of assessed contributions by certain member States, those Governments' contribution to UNIFIL should place so heavy a financial burden on them.

30. Finally, I pay tribute to Major-General Gustav Hägglund, the Force Commander, and to all the men and women under his command and control, both military and civilian, for the courage and determination with which they have faced a very difficult period. Their discipline and bearing have been of a high order, reflecting credit on themselves, on their countries and on the United Nations.

ANNEX

[*Map: UNIFIL deployment as of January 1988. See end of volume.*]

DOCUMENT S/19446

Letter dated 21 January 1988 from the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*22 January 1988*]

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to enclose herewith the text of a note verbale dated 6 January 1988 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran addressed to the French Interest Section of the Italian Embassy in Tehran.

It would be highly appreciated if this letter and its annex were circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammad Ja'afar MAHALLATI
Acting Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations

ANNEX

Note verbale dated 6 January 1988 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran addressed to the French Interest Section of the Italian Embassy in Tehran

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran presents its compliments to the Embassy of Italy (the French Interest Section) in Tehran, and has the honour to inform it that according to information provided by pertinent officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran:

1. On 19 November 1987, at 0928 hours, a French ship at the position of 24°5′N and 57°31′E warned the pilot of an Iranian sea-patrol aircraft not to fly closer to the ship.

2. On 20 November, at 1137 hours, a French ship at the position of 24°20′N and 58°42′E warned the pilot of an Iranian sea-patrol aircraft not to fly closer to the ship

3. On 23 November, at 1556 hours, a French aircraft carrier at the position of 23°51′N and 59°38′E warned the pilot of an Iranian sea-patrol aircraft at the position of 24°00′N and 59°38′E not to fly closer to the carrier.

4. On 26 November, at 0900 hours, a French ship at the position of 24°43′N and 58°01′E warned the pilot of an Iranian sea-patrol aircraft at the position of 24°50′N and 58°01′E not to fly closer to the ship.

It is evident that the right of overflight in international waters for all States is one of the universally recognized rights in international law. French patrol aircraft have chased and intercepted Iranian patrol aircraft preventing their free passage over international waters of the Persian Gulf in violation of all accepted norms of international law. Therefore, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, while protesting these actions, strongly demands a halt to such activities.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Embassy of Italy (the French Interest Section) the assurances of its highest consideration.

Hoping for the victory of the oppressed over oppressors.

DOCUMENT S/19447*

Letter dated 19 January 1988 from the representatives of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Spanish*]
[*22 January 1988*]

We are pleased to transmit to you herewith the text of the Joint Declaration of the Central American Presidents, issued at San José on 16 January 1988 by the Presidents of the Central American Republics following their meeting at Alajuela, and to request that this letter and its annex be distributed as an official document of the forty-second session of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Emilia CASTRO DE BARISH
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission of Costa Rica to the United Nations

(*Signed*) Guillermo A. MELENDEZ-BARAHONA
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission of El Salvador to the United Nations

(*Signed*) Fernando ANDRADE DIAZ-DURAN
Permanent Representative of Guatemala to the United Nations

(*Signed*) Julio A. RENDON-BARNICA
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission of Honduras to the United Nations

(*Signed*) Julio E. ICAZA-GALLARD
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission of Nicaragua to the United Nations

ANNEX

Joint Declaration of the Central American Presidents, issued at San José on 16 January 1988

The Presidents have received the conclusions of the report of the International Verification and Follow-up Commission prepared pursuant to sec-

* Circulated under the double symbol A/42/911-S/19447.

tion 11 of the Esquipulas II "Procedures for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace in Central America" [*S/19085, annex*], with reservations entered by some of them.

The Presidents recognize the effort made and the tremendous work done by the Commission and thank it for its dedication and its efforts to assist compliance with the Esquipulas II agreements.

The Presidents instruct the Executive Commission, on receiving the general report, to consider that report and make any pertinent recommendations.

The Presidents confirm the historic value and importance of the Esquipulas II Procedures, the drafting and spirit of which they today recognize and reaffirm as vital to bringing democracy and peace to the region.

Since the commitments under the Esquipulas II agreements have not been entirely fulfilled, they undertake to fulfil unconditional, unilateral obligations with which Governments are bound to comply fully and without exception. These obligations include dialogue, talks leading to a cease-fire agreement, general amnesty and, above all, democratization, which necessarily includes the lifting of states of emergency, complete freedom of the press, political pluralism and an end to the functioning of special courts. Those of the commitments just mentioned which have not been fulfilled by Governments shall immediately be clearly and publicly fulfilled.

Compliance with the agreements contained in the Esquipulas II document includes commitments the fulfilment of which by Governments is necessarily subject to special verification, in particular, the termination of aid for irregular groups, the non-use of territory to support such groups, and genuine freedom of electoral processes which shall be verified by the National Reconciliation Commission, giving special importance to elections to the Central American Parliament. All of these are "vital if a stable and lasting peace is to be attained in the region".

The main function of the Executive Commission made up of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Central American States shall be to verify, monitor and follow up all the commitments set forth in the Guatemala Procedures and in this Declaration. To that end, it shall secure the co-operation of States of the region or from outside the region, or bodies of recognized impartiality and technical competence, which have indicated their desire to co-operate in the Central American peace process.

Compliance with the Esquipulas II Procedures also requires that obligations embracing an already established strategy, such as arms control and security and disarmament agreements, also be followed up.

We express our gratitude to the international community for the political and financial support which it has pledged to promoting regional projects aimed at the economic and social development of Central America. This objective is directly linked with the task of achieving, preserving and strengthening peace, for since the original causes of this conflict were economic and social, peace cannot be achieved without development.

Aware of their historic responsibility to their peoples, the Presidents reaffirm their irrevocable, unalterable determination to comply with the procedure in the manner stipulated and promise to fulfil all outstanding commitments immediately, without hesitation or evasion, in the realization that their peoples and the international community will be the judges of compliance with obligations entered into in good faith.

In signing this Declaration, we thank the people of Costa Rica and their President, Mr. Oscar Arias Sánchez, for their hospitality, which afforded us an appropriate setting for this meeting.

(*Signed*) Oscar ARIAS SÁNCHEZ
President, Republic of Costa Rica

(*Signed*) José Napoléon DUARTE
President, Republic of El Salvador

(*Signed*) Vinicio CEREZO ARÉVALO
President, Republic of Guatemala

(*Signed*) José AZCONA HOYO
President, Republic of Honduras

(*Signed*) Daniel ORTEGA SAAVEDRA
President, Republic of Nicaragua

DOCUMENT S/19448

Letter dated 24 January 1988 from the representative of Iraq to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Arabic*]
[*25 January 1988*]

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you the text of a letter dated 23 January 1988 addressed to you by Mr. Tariq Aziz, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ismat KITTANI
Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations

LETTER DATED 23 JANUARY 1988 FROM THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF IRAQ ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

With reference to the talks which you have held with our Permanent Representative, Ambassador Ismat Kittani, and to the talks held between him and the President of the Security Council, I should like to reaffirm to you that—as you, the members of the Security Council and the whole world are aware—Iraq welcomed resolution 598 (1987) immediately after it was adopted. We so informed you, officially and in writing, on 23 July 1987, three days after the resolution was adopted at New York. Iraq's position in this connection is consistent with the position it has maintained throughout the years of the conflict with Iran. It has welcomed all previous resolutions adopted by the Security Council and has accepted the authority of the United Nations with respect to the conflict. It has constantly called for a peaceful settlement of the conflict based on the Charter of the United Nations and the rules of international law.

In the course of the official talks which we held with you on the subject of the resolution, and in the statements and communiqués issued by Iraqi officials, we have treated resolution 598 (1987) as binding, in accordance with the provisions of the Charter, and as being not subject to bargaining, fragmentation or selective application. We have treated it as an indivisible whole. We have not interpreted any of its clauses in a manner which would contravene its letter or spirit, nor have we introduced into it any elements which are extraneous to its text and to the rules followed in connection with the resolutions of the international organization. We have acted properly, sincerely and responsibly in this regard.

You, the members of the Security Council and the world as a whole know that Iran—which has already rejected all the resolutions adopted by the Security Council, has belittled the Council and heaped abuse on it and has not accorded any recognition to the authority of the international organization with respect to the conflict—has indulged in prevarication since resolution 598 (1987) was adopted. At times, its various officials declare that they reject the resolution and deride the Security Council, while at other times they play a game in which they fragment the resolution and select those parts of it which appeal to them. They change the order of its operative paragraphs, thus violating the text

of the resolution, and they make their own interpretations of its clauses without any relation to the text or to the rules of international procedure, nor to the customs of the United Nations.

It is a source of regret that various ways of dealing with this binding resolution became common during the months which followed its adoption. During this time attitudes were adopted which made it easier for the Iranian régime to act in this way and which nullified the important international effort embodied by this resolution, which stands out in the history of the international organization.

Despite these self-evident facts on the position of the two sides, we continue to hear requests that we should express an opinion on the subject and confirm our well-known position to you. We repeat and reaffirm that Iraq has welcomed and continues to welcome Security Council resolution 598 (1987), all the paragraphs of which are binding, as stated in the order and text. We reaffirm our willingness to co-operate with you and with the Security Council with a view to implementing the resolution in good faith, in accordance with the actual text of the resolution. We are not, meanwhile, able to accept any interpretation or arrangement with respect to the resolution which may be inconsistent with its text and its spirit and which does not result in comprehensive and lasting peace, but instead provides the Iranian régime with further opportunities to continue the war, to persist in killing and destruction, to occupy territory, to threaten security and stability in the region, to violate international law and to threaten international peace.

(*Signed*) Tariq AZIZ
Deputy Prime Minister and
Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq

DOCUMENT S/19449

Letter dated 25 January 1988 from the representative of Iraq to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Arabic*]
[*25 January 1988*]

On instructions from my Government and further to our previous letters concerning the Iranian régime's persistence in bombarding purely civilian targets in Iraq, I have the honour to inform you that the forces of that régime committed the following acts of aggression on 24 January 1988:

Time	*Place*	*Casualties and damage*
1135 to 1152	Sulaymaniyah: Sayyid Sadiq subdistrict and Al-Nasr residential complex (Panjwin subdistrict)	1 citizen killed and 17 wounded, including 7 children and 6 women; 2 houses and some civilian installations destroyed

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ismat KITTANI
Permanent Representative of Iraq
to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19450*

Letter dated 25 January 1988 from the representative of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Arabic*]
[*25 January 1988*]

I have the honour to transmit a letter addressed to you by Mr. Jadalla Azzouz Talhi, Secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison, concerning the situation in the Middle East and the question of Palestine.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ali Sunni MUNTASSER
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission of
the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
to the United Nations

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/98-S/19450.

LETTER FROM THE SECRETARY OF THE PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE OF THE PEOPLE'S BUREAU FOR FOREIGN LIAISON OF THE LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

The great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya has previously drawn your attention, and that of the international community, to the drawbacks involved in the use of the veto in the Security Council and has called, through the General Assembly, for the elimination of that privilege. That call has undoubtedly assumed greater urgency following the increased misuse by the United States of America of its veto privilege, particularly against the just causes of peoples which the United Nations and its Charter are supposed to defend.

A brief review of the United States use of its veto privilege clearly reveals that the just causes of small peoples, including the cause of the Arab community, have provided the major target for misuse of that privilege.

The United States vote in the Security Council on 18 January 1988 [*2784th meeting*] against a draft resolution "deploring" the repeated attacks of the Zionist entity against Lebanese territory and all other repressive measures and practices undertaken by that entity against the civilian population in the region provides evidence of its hostility towards the Arab community and its contempt for the simplest rules relating to the prevention of aggression. Indeed, its position may be interpreted as providing encouragement, condonement and support for further attacks.

The United States assertions that it is working for peace in the Arab region are no longer compatible even with simple logic. How is it possible to support and encourage aggression while claiming to be working for peace?

The international community is urged to put an end to the United States mockery of the security, safety and freedom of peoples and to its disdain for the responsibilities conferred upon it as a permanent member of the Security Council, a body to which the international community has accorded particular responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security.

Jadalla Azzouz TALHI
Secretary of the People's Committee
of the People's Bureau for
Foreign Liaison
of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya

DOCUMENT S/19451

Letter dated 25 January 1988 from the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*26 January 1988*]

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to draw your attention to violations of international law by the United States forces in the Persian Gulf which consist of interference with Iranian sea-patrol aircraft flying over international and the Iranian territorial waters as well as interception of the Iranian patrol aircraft by United States warplanes. The list of these violations is herewith annexed.

It would be appreciated if this letter and its annex were circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammad Ja'afar MAHALLATI
Acting Permanent Representative of
the Islamic Republic of Iran
to the United Nations

ANNEX

United States violations of international law in the Persian Gulf

1. WARNINGS TO IRANIAN SEA-PATROL AIRCRAFT BY UNITED STATES NAVAL VESSELS

1. On 12 November 1987, at 1130 hours, an American ship at the position of 24°33′ N and 58°00′ E warned the pilot of an Iranian sea-patrol aircraft at the position of 24°42′ N and 57°46′ E not to fly closer to the ship.

2. On 16 November, at 1512 hours, an American ship at the position of 24°10′ N and 59°10′ E warned the pilot of an Iranian sea-patrol aircraft at the position of 24°23′ N and 58°56′E not to fly closer to the ship.

3. On 17 November, at 1000 hours, an American ship warned the pilot of an Iranian sea-patrol aircraft at the position of 26°14′ N and 54°20′ E not to fly closer to the ship.

4. On 17 November, at 1600 hours, an American ship at the position of 25°40′ N and 56°55′ E warned the pilot of an Iranian sea-patrol aircraft not to fly closer to the ship.

5. On 17 November, at 1610 hours, an American ship at the position of 25°40′ N and 57°05′ E warned the pilot of an Iranian sea-patrol aircraft not to fly closer to the ship.

6. On 17 November, at 1536 hours, an American ship at the position of 25°28′ N and 57°13′ E warned the pilot of an Iranian sea-patrol aircraft at the position of 25°36′ N and 57°40′ E over Iranian territorial waters not to fly closer to the ship.

7. On 19 November, at 0955 hours, an American ship at the position of 24°00′ N and 58°35′ E warned the pilot of an Iranian sea-patrol aircraft at the position of 24°28′ N and 58°27′ E not to fly closer to the ship.

8. On 19 November, at 1630 hours, an American ship at the position of 25°45′ N and 55°20′ E, warned the pilot of an Iranian sea-patrol aircraft at the position of 26°29′ N and 55°36′ E over Iranian territorial waters not to fly closer to the ship.

9. On 27 November, at 1010 hours, an American ship at the position of 24°46′ N and 60°56′ E warned the pilot of an Iranian sea-patrol aircraft at the position of 25°05′ N and 60°07′ E not to fly closer to the ship.

10. On 28 November, at 0944 hours, an American ship at the position of 24°47′ N and 58°27′ E warned the pilot of an Iranian sea-patrol aircraft at the position of 25°00′ N and 58°49′ E not to fly closer to the ship.

11. On 28 November, at 1505 hours, an American warship at the position of 26°14′ N and 55°54′ E warned the pilot of an Iranian sea-patrol aircraft at the position of 26°15′ N and 56°40′ E not to fly closer to the ship.

2. INTERCEPTION BY AMERICAN AIRCRAFT OF IRANIAN SEA-PATROL AIRCRAFT

1. On 26 November 1987, at 0952 hours, two American F-18 aircraft at the position of 24°49′ N and 59°52′ E intercepted an Iranian sea-patrol aircraft.

2. On 27 November, at 0947 hours, two American F-18 aircraft at the position of 24°47′ N and 59°02′ E intercepted an Iranian sea-patrol aircraft.

3. On 27 November, at 0955 hours, two American F-18 aircraft at the position of 24°47′ N and 59°25′ E intercepted an Iranian sea-patrol aircraft.

4. On 28 November, at 0926 hours, two American F-18 aircraft at the position of 25°03′ N and 58°55′ E intercepted an Iranian sea-patrol aircraft.

DOCUMENT S/19452*

Letter dated 25 January 1988 from the representative of Malaysia to the Secretary-General

[Original: English]
[26 January 1988]

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith a statement issued by Malaysia in regard to the continuing violence perpetrated by Israel against civilians in the occupied territories. I have the honour further to request the circulation of the statement as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) YUSOF M. Hitam
Permanent Representative of Malaysia to the United Nations

ANNEX

Statement dated 15 January 1988 issued by Malaysia

The Government of Malaysia is appalled by the cruelties being perpetrated by the Tel Aviv régime in pursuit of its ambitions. In defiance of world opinion and the United Nations resolutions, it continues its relentless policies of brutal repression against innocent and unarmed Palestinians in the occupied territories. The atrocities and bloodshed being inflicted by Israel have reached a new and more terrible proportion.

The responsibility for the disturbances in Gaza and the West Bank rest squarely with Tel Aviv, which is subjecting Palestinians to systematic political and economic oppression. It is a measure of the Israeli lack of consideration that almost 40 years after their dislocation the Palestinians have still to live as refugees in their own land. Malaysia once again strongly and emphatically condemns the Tel Aviv régime for its heinous crimes against the people of the occupied territories, and calls on it to abide immediately by international norms as well as to respect the inalienable rights of the Palestinians to a national homeland.

The Government and people of Malaysia fully sympathize with the plight of the Palestinians, a valiant people dispossessed of their homeland. As an expression of our support and solidarity, a Special Fund for Palestinians in the Occupied Territories is being set up at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Wisma Putra), to which Malaysians are requested to donate generously, to help our Palestinian brothers in their moment of severe trial and hardship. Donations by cheques can be made payable to "Tabung Rakyat Palestine".

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/99-S/19452.

DOCUMENT S/19454*

Letter dated 26 January 1988 from the representative of Tunisia to the Secretary-General

[Original: French]
[26 January 1988]

I have the honour to transmit the text of a statement issued on 22 January 1988 by the Office of the President of the Republic of Tunisia on recent developments in the occupied Arab territories.

I should be grateful if you would arrange for distribution of the text of this letter and the attached statement as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ahmed GHEZAL
Permanent Representative of Tunisia to the United Nations

ANNEX

Statement dated 22 January 1988 issued by the Office of the President of Tunisia

The President of the Republic of Tunisia, Mr. Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, is following the Israeli occupying army's acts of bloody repression and high-handed behaviour towards the unarmed Palestinian inhabitants of the occupied Arab territories with keen interest and grave concern.

Hailing this brave uprising, through which the Palestinian people is giving a fine example of resistance and struggle while paying new tribute in innocent martyrs, the President reaffirms Tunisia's firm and active solidarity with its Palestinian brethren in the occupied territories. He strongly condemns the carnage, the deportations and the inhuman acts committed by the Israeli occupying army, which represent a flagrant violation of international conventions and agreements, an affront to moral values and a disregard for the most elementary human rights.

Reiterating its recent appeal to world public opinion, Tunisia again urges the international community to speed the adoption of strong measures to end the sufferings of the Palestinian people and permit the convening of an international peace conference, in order to arrive at a solution which will restore to these people their lawful national rights to freedom, dignity and the establishment of an independent State in their territory.

The change that has taken place in the kind of resistance and struggle offered illustrates the renewed ability of the Palestinian people to fight and their unwavering commitment to their inalienable historical rights, which the despoilers are striving to obscure by every means of domination and oppression available.

Today, more than ever before, consciences must awaken and good will assert itself to ensure the adoption of effective, practical measures that will affect the course of events directly and challenge Israel's stubbornness and refusal to comply with international law and the resolutions of the United Nations.

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/109-S/19454.

DOCUMENT S/19457*

Letter dated 26 January 1988 from the representative of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to the Secretary-General

[Original: English]
[27 January 1988]

Upon instructions from my Government and further to my earlier letters concerning the military attack launched by Thailand against Lao territory, I have the honour to transmit to you the text of the statement issued by the Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic on the intensification of nibbling attacks by the Thai side against Lao territory.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex distributed as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Alounkeo KITTIKHOUN
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission
of the Lao People's Democratic Republic
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Statement issued at Vientiane on 25 January 1988 by the Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic

For many years, the situation at the Lao-Thai border has been upset and perturbed by the provocative and encroaching activities of a number of bad elements in the Thai ruling circles. It is well known that, while the incident of the three villages at Paklay district, Sayaboury province, has not yet been settled, a new incident has occurred since the beginning of 1987; namely, the power wielders in Thailand have dispatched their military troops to encroach upon the territory of Tasseng Nabonoi, Botène district, Sayaboury province, of the Lao People's Democratic Republic. This act has become gradually brazen and serious, starting from 15 December 1987. They have heavily increased their attacks by mobilizing the air forces and heavy artilleries of diverse calibers to bomb the area continuously and indiscriminately, using phosphorous and chemical-tipped shells. In order to safeguard the sovereignty and the territorial integrity of the national territory, the local forces and people of Botène district had to exercise their rights of self-defence against the attacks of the Thai side.

On the other hand, the Lao side has striven tirelessly to restrain this dangerous situation by proposing, on several occasions, the meeting without any pre-conditions between the two sides in order to settle the problem on the basis of equality.

But it is regretful that important personalities within the Thai Government and many army generals have made statements inciting these military attacks. Furthermore, on 22 January, the Prime Minister of the Government of the Thai Kingdom, Mr. Prem Tinsulanonda, accompanied by different important persons such as the Minister of Defence, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Minister of the Interior and the army commander and, cumulatively, acting supreme commander, his deputy and his assistant and the chief of staff, went to inspect the situation at the area of the incident and has stated that the borderline between Thailand and Laos follows the Nam Heuang Nga, that this area is within the Thai territory and that the Thai army will achieve the flushing out of the Lao people from this area very soon. This statement made by the Prime Minister shows that the power wielders in Thailand intend to make use of military measures to encroach upon Lao territory, thus refusing to settle the problems of bilateral relations by negotiation. This attitude runs counter to the interests and the aspirations of the Lao and Thai peoples, who have always wanted to live in peaceful coexistence and to make the common border a border of peace and friendship. This attitude and the behaviour of the Thai power wielders are countering the actually growing trend in South-East Asia and in the world, a trend which is appealing to the settlement of incidents by negotiations.

The Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic categorically rejects the Thai allegations that the Nam Heuang Nga would be the borderline between the two countries, and it reaffirms that the Nam Heuang is the borderline as it was stipulated in the 1907 Franco-Siamese treaty and the protocol annexed thereto. On the legal side as well as in practice, from the maps as well as from the border marks, the Nabonoi area is under the sovereignty of the Lao People's Democratic Republic and forms an integral part of its territory.

The Lao People's Democratic Republic demands that the Thai side cease all military activities aimed at encroaching on Lao territory, withdraw all its armed forces from this area, respect its sovereignty and territorial integrity and abide by the fundamental principles contained in the 1979 Lao-Thai joint communiqués.

Facing the present grave situation, the Lao People's Democratic Republic appeals sincerely to the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand to respond in a constructive manner to its proposals of goodwill for negotiations, in the interest of traditional friendship between the two countries and peoples. It appeals to the brotherly Thai people to contribute actively to stopping the useless bloodshed and to encourage the negotiations between the two Governments in order to restore the relations of good-neighbourliness between the two nations.

With the aim of putting an end to the incident as soon as possible, the Lao People's Democratic Republic solemnly declares that it stands ready to send a delegation to Bangkok in the beginning of February 1988 to negotiate with the Thai side. If, for any reason, the latter would not be able to receive it, the Lao People's Democratic Republic would be pleased to invite the Thai delegation to Vientiane during the same period of time.

The Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic appeals to the Governments of friendly countries, to the United Nations, to the international organizations, to the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and to the peace- and justice-loving world opinion to show understanding and give support to the just position and good will of the Lao People's Democratic Republic and to encourage the negotiations between Thailand and Laos in order to stop the confrontation, thus contributing to the cause of peace and stability in South-East Asia and in the world.

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/110-S/19457.

DOCUMENT S/19458*

Letter dated 26 January 1988 from the representative of the Federal Republic of Germany to the Secretary-General

[Original: English/French]
[27 January 1988]

I have the honour to transmit herewith, on behalf of the Missions of the twelve States members of the European Community, the English and French texts of a statement by the Twelve concerning the destruction of a South Korean civil aircraft on 29 November 1987.

I should be grateful if this letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Alexander COUNT YORK
Permanent Representative
of the Federal Republic of Germany
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Statement by the 12 States members of the European Community

The Twelve take note of the findings of the Korean authorities' investigation into the destruction of Korean Air flight 858 on 29 November 1987 and of the indications available at present implicating a North Korean woman in this incident.

The Twelve deeply regret the tragic loss of 115 lives. They have repeatedly expressed their strongest condemnation of terrorist acts against civil aviation.

They vigorously condemn this particularly despicable attack against a Korean civil aircraft and wish to draw the attention of relevant international fora to this incident.

They express the hope that the situation on the Korean peninsula will not be affected by this criminal act.

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/111-S/19458.

DOCUMENT S/19459*

Letter dated 27 January 1988 from the representative of Egypt to the Secretary-General

[Original: English]
[27 January 1988]

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter addressed to you by Mr. Ahmed Esmat Abdel Meguid, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Arab Republic of Egypt.

I kindly request you to circulate this letter and its annex as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Abdel Halim BADAWI
Permanent Representative of Egypt
to the United Nations

LETTER DATED 27 JANUARY 1988 FROM THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF EGYPT ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to communicate to you herewith the text of President Mubarak's Peace Initiative on the situation concerning the occupied territories in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

Ahmed Esmat ABDEL MEGUID
Deputy Prime Minister and
Minister for Foreign Affairs of Egypt

ANNEX

President Mubarak's Peace Initiative—January 1988

The tragic events in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip confirm the urgency of resuming the peace process in the interest of all the parties concerned. In order to pave the way for meaningful negotiations, we propose that the parties concerned would halt all forms of violence and repression in the occupied territories for six months; such a step would be accompanied by:

1. Ceasing all settlement activities;
2. Respecting the political rights and freedoms of the Palestinian people under Israeli occupation;
3. Ensuring the safety and protection of this people through proper international mechanisms;
4. Movement towards the convening of the International Peace Conference with the aim of reaching a comprehensive peace settlement that provides for the recognition of the right of all the States in the region to live in peace and for enabling the Palestinian people to exercise their right to self-determination.

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/112-S/19459.

DOCUMENT S/19460

Letter dated 28 January 1988 from the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Secretary-General

[Original: English]
[28 January 1988]

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that on 9 September 1987, at 1155 hours, two American aircraft intercepted an Iranian passenger aeroplane, flight No. IR-7019 of the Islamic Republic of Iran Airlines, at the position of 25°26′ N and 54°51′ E on the Tehran-Dubai route. On the same day, at 1203 hours, the two American aircraft passed through the position of 25°40′ N and 55°10′ E and then travelling at the speed of 300 miles per hour at the altitude of 5,000 ft. violated Iranian airspace and departed from it at 1235 hours through the position of 25°40′ N and 57°10′ E.

The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran expresses its strong protest against such actions by American aircraft, which represent nothing but the blatant violation of the sovereignty of an independent nation.

It would be highly appreciated if this letter were circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammad Ja'afar MAHALLATI
Acting Permanent Representative
of the Islamic Republic of Iran
to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19462

Letter dated 29 January 1988 from the representative of Canada to the Secretary-General

[Original: English]
[29 January 1988]

I have the honour to transmit the text of a statement issued on 27 January 1988 by the Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, on the report of the Secretary-General on the situation in the occupied Arab territories.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have this letter and the attached text distributed as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Stephen LEWIS
Permanent Representative of Canada
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Text of a statement issued on 27 January 1988 by the Secretary of State for External Affairs of Canada

[Original: English and French]

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, welcomed the United Nations Secretary-General's analysis of the situation in the occupied territories [*see S/19443*]. He also expressed appreciation for the identification of realistic and practicable measures for the safety of their population and for the report's emphasis on the need to find a political solution to the current situation.

Consistent with Canada's long-standing position that the Fourth Geneva Convention[1] applies to the territories, Canada would be prepared to join with other contracting parties to that Convention in an appeal to the Government of Israel to apply its provisions to the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. Violations of the Geneva Convention, including human rights abuses and settlements, are unacceptable and damaging to the peace process. By applying the Convention, Israel would provide significant confirmation of its willingness to encourage a climate for peaceful negotiations.

The Government of Canada is ready to respond to an appeal for funds by the International Committee of the Red Cross to finance the extra activities required by the increase in detainees. As a major contributor to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, we believe the international community should join in the effort called for in the Secretary-General's report to improve the infrastructure of the refugee camps located in the occupied territories. On 20 January, Canada made an additional contribution of $500,000 to special construction projects to the benefit of the refugee population. In 1987, Canada devoted $1,250,000 in development assistance to the territories. It will continue to share in efforts to assist these territories in ways helpful to peace.

Such measures, however, will not remove the root causes of the recent tragic events. As stated by the Secretary-General, "the underlying problem can only be resolved through a political settlement". Canada joins in his call for each side to strive to understand better the legitimate interests of the other and to act in a manner which promotes mutual understanding.

Canada believes that an international conference leading to direct negotiations would provide a suitable framework for the conclusion of a just and lasting settlement.

DOCUMENT S/19463*

Letter dated 29 January 1988 from the representative of Viet Nam to the Secretary-General

[Original: English]
[29 January 1988]

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you the text of the statement issued on 28 January 1988 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam in full support of the demand of the Lao Government that Thailand immediately end its military attacks and land-grabbing acts against Laos, and pull out all its armed forces from Lao territory.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex distributed as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) NGUYEN BINH THANH
Acting Permanent Representative of Viet Nam to the United Nations

ANNEX

Statement issued on 28 January 1988 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Viet Nam

On 25 January 1988, the Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic issued a statement condemning a number of responsible personalities within the ruling circles of Thailand for continuing to send troops to commit provocations and acts of land-grabbing against Lao territory in the Nabonoi area in Sayaboury province. It is public knowledge that since mid-December 1987 the Lao side has made many proposals for settling the outstanding problems with Thailand through negotiations on an equal footing and without pre-conditions. However, in response to the good will of Laos, the Thai side has continuously strengthened its military forces, including infantry, artillery and airpower, even using chemical weapons for repeated attacks on the area. Particularly serious is that recently a number of responsible persons in the Thai ruling circles have unilaterally declared that the Nabonoi area, which actually is under Lao jurisdiction, belongs to Thailand and openly incited their troops to push ahead with their acts of encroachment upon Lao territory.

The development of the situation shows that the Thai ruling circles have a vested interest in maintaining the tense situation at the Thai-Lao border and in blocking the settlement of the differences between the two countries through negotiations. They have repeated their slanderous allegations against Viet Nam in an attempt to shirk the responsibility of Thailand for having provoked this conflict and to save themselves from isolation before public opinion. By so doing, they also want to co-ordinate their actions with the acts of confrontation and tension provoked by the foreign reactionary forces in order to undercut the trend toward dialogue which is gaining ground in the area. The acts of the Thai ruling circles run counter to the interests of the two peoples and to the trend in South-East Asia and the world, which wants to settle all disputes through negotiations. They also are serious violations of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Laos, of the Charter of the United Nations and of international practice.

The people and Government of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam fully support the correct stance and the good-will attitude of the Lao People's Democratic Republic in demanding that the Thai side end immediately all its military attacks and land-grabbing acts against Lao territory, pull out all Thai armed forces from this area and respect the fundamental principles of the 1975 joint communiqué between Laos and Thailand. The most correct way to end the conflict and restore peace to the peoples of Laos and Thailand, thereby contributing to the restoration of the friendship between the two nations and the safeguarding of peace in the area, is for the Thai ruling circles to respond without delay to the demands of the Lao side and take prompt actions together with the Lao People's Democratic Republic in order to solve this question through peaceful negotiations on the principles of equality and without pre-conditions.

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/113-S/19463.

DOCUMENT S/19464*

Letter dated 29 January 1988 from the representative of Morocco to the Secretary-General

[Original: Arabic/French]
[29 January 1988]

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to forward herewith the official final communiqué and resolution adopted at the emergency meeting of the Al-Quds Committee held in Ifrane, Morocco, on 15 Jumada I, A.H. 1408 (5 January 1988).

I should be grateful if you would arrange for the text of this letter and the annex thereto to be distributed as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Driss SLAOUI
Permanent Representative of Morocco to the United Nations

ANNEX

Final communiqué and recommendations adopted at the emergency meeting of the Al-Quds Committee on 5 January 1988

In the wake of the massive national uprising currently sweeping Al-Quds al-Sharif (Jerusalem the Holy) and the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, which has spread to all the Palestinian Arab territories under occupation, and following the escalation by the Zionist enemy of its repression of the uprising, described by its media as the most violent since 1967, the Al-Quds Committee held an emergency meeting in the city of Ifrane, Morocco, on 15 Jumada I, A.H. 1408 (5 January 1988), at the invitation of King Hassan II of Morocco, the Chairman of the Al-Quds Committee, to consider all aspects of the savage means of repression being employed against the Palestinian people.

The meeting was attended by Brother Mujahid Yasser Arafat, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization, and by representatives of all the member States of the Committee with the exception of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Syrian Arab Republic.

The meeting was also attended by Mr. Syed Sharifuddin Pirzada, Secretary-General of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC).

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/114-S/19464.

King Hassan II opened the meeting with an address in which he stated that resistance was the acknowledged right of people whose dignity had been trampled. Following the events in Al-Quds, the West Bank, the Gaza Strip and the other occupied territories, he could only express astonishment at seeing the United States, a super-Power and a friend, renounce the principles "which in the past it has fought to defend, and for which we have fought by its side".

His Majesty recalled the Arab Peace Plan, approved by the Arab Summit Conference at Fez [*see S/15510, annex*]. He expressed his apprehension that there might have been confusion between the issue of Al-Quds al-Sharif and the Arab-Israeli problem, which would delay the solution of the former. He suggested that the Al-Quds Committee, or the Foreign Ministers of OIC member States at their forthcoming meeting in Amman, should draft practical guidelines on winning the sympathies of adherents of religions other than Islam and rallying the maximum number of sympathizers for Muslims and the cause of Al-Quds.

His Majesty added that such action was essential, for "if we close ranks on the question of Al-Quds, we will compel the enemy to enter into a dialogue. If the enemy should refuse a dialogue, it would help to convince the world that it seeks neither a dialogue nor a peaceful solution and is not ready for either."

His Majesty commended the efforts of the Secretary-General of the Organization of the Islamic Conference in the service of the organization and of the Al-Quds Committee. He asked the Chairman of the PLO Executive Committee to convey to the fighters outside the occupied territories and the resistance forces within them the word of Allah the Almighty: "Lord, fill our hearts with steadfastness. Make us firm of foot and help us against the unbelievers. By Allah's Will, they routed them."[5]

Mr. Pirzada, Secretary-General of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, expressed his thanks and appreciation to King Hassan II for having called the important meeting at a time when the Palestinian cause and Al-Quds al-Sharif were undergoing such difficulties. He expressed the grave concern of the Muslim world at the continuing vicious Zionist onslaught against the Palestinian people, the murdering of unarmed children, women and elderly people in the occupied territories, the violation of holy places and the firing at worshippers in mosques.

Mr. Pirzada expressed his admiration for and pride in the outstanding heroism demonstrated by the steadfast Palestinian people in the face of the occupation. The young Palestinians had been confronting the occupation forces, which were armed to the teeth with the most sophisticated weaponry, with nothing more than the stones of their blessed land and their magnificent courage, which had shaken the Zionist entity and sown panic in its ranks.

Speaking next, Yasser Arafat expressed his thanks to King Hassan II for his fraternal, faithful and sincere stand towards the Palestinians at that critical juncture. He then reviewed the phases in the current upsurge of the Palestinian people, stating that the upsurge would, with the help of God, continue unabated. He informed the Committee that the Palestine Liberation Organization had asked for a meeting of the Security Council to consider the attempts by the Zionist entity to deport Palestinian citizens from their homeland, and called for international protection for the Palestinian people in the occupied territories.

The Committee heard a message sent to King Hassan II by his brother, Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, Emir of the State of Kuwait and Chairman of the Fifth Islamic Summit, in which His Highness hailed the meeting of the Al-Quds Committee and expressed appreciation to King Hassan II for his initiative in convening it, thus revealing his awareness of the importance of united Islamic action to help the Palestinian people in the occupied Arab territories.

The Committee also listened to statements by the heads of the delegations of Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Bangladesh, Pakistan and Senegal, in which they expressed pride in the steadfastness of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories and their worthy resistance, which had culminated in the present uprising. They also thanked King Hassan II for his initiative in convening the meeting of the Committee to consider the situation in the occupied Palestinian territories. They emphasized the need to support the Palestinian people in their resistance and their rejection of occupation and help them to counter the designs of the Zionist entity and its policies and practices aimed at uprooting the Palestine people from their land.

The Al-Quds Committee, following closely and with grave concern the development of the serious situation in the City of Al-Quds al-Sharif and the other occupied Palestinian territories:

1. *Salutes* the Arab Palestinian people, expresses pride in their uprising, and calls upon all OIC member States to intensify their political and material support for the Arab Palestinian people inside their occupied homeland so as to strengthen their capacity for steadfastness and for resistance to occupation and terrorist and racist practices;

2. *Reiterates* its condemnation of Israel's occupation of the Palestinian and Arab territories, including Al-Quds, and considers that the continuation of the occupation constitutes a grave violation of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of the Palestinian people;

3. *Strongly condemns* the inhuman Zionist policies and practices against the Arab population in the occupied Palestinian territories, as exemplified by evictions, expulsions, deportations, killings, mass detentions, expropriations and the violation and desecration of holy places, and calls upon the international community to hold an investigation, under the auspices of the United Nations and the International Committee of the Red Cross with a view to determining the magnitude of the heinous crimes committed by Israel against the Arab people of Palestine and bringing such crimes to an end;

4. *Calls upon* all member States of OIC to use their influence and friendly relations with the international community and to make all necessary efforts and political and diplomatic contacts with States, international and regional organizations to persuade them to bring pressure to bear on the Zionist occupation authorities to comply with international treaties and conventions, in particular the 1949 Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War,[1] in the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories and respect the relevant international resolutions;

5. *Calls for* the setting up, throughout the Muslim world, of committees on solidarity with the Palestinian people, in order to provide material and moral assistance to the revolution until the Palestinian people can liberate their land and determine their own destiny;

6. *Calls upon* the councils of Muslim ambassadors in all world capitals to make urgent contacts with the Governments, political parties and public organizations and the information media in their countries of accreditation and to urge them to denounce and decry Zionist practices and call for an end to them;

7. *Calls upon* all Islamic media institutions to give still more coverage to news of the popular uprising in occupied Palestine and write commentaries on the situation so as to enlighten Islamic public opinion about the facts in the occupied Palestinian territories;

8. *Expresses its appreciation* to all States, international organizations and communities which have condemned Israel's repressive measures promptly, publicly and officially, and urges them to continue and intensify their condemnation and bring pressure to bear on the Israeli occupation authorities to stop such measures;

9. *Calls upon* the international community to do everything possible to help the Palestinian people regain their legitimate rights, and reiterates that peace and stability cannot return to the city of Al-Quds, the rest of the Palestinian territories or the Middle East region as a whole until a just and comprehensive solution is found to the problem of Palestine, which is the primary concern of the Muslims and the key to the conflict in the Middle East; such a solution must enable the Palestinian people to regain their inalienable national rights, including title to their homeland and the right to return, to recover their property, to determine their own future without any outside interference, to exercise unfettered sovereignty over their country and its natural resources and to establish an independent and sovereign State in Palestine with Al-Quds al-Sharif as its capital, under the leadership of their sole legitimate representative, the Palestine Liberation Organization;

10. *Calls for* the early convening of an international peace conference on the Middle East under United Nations auspices, with the participation on an equal footing of all parties to the Arab-Israeli conflict, including the Palestine Liberation Organization, and the five permanent members of the Security Council;

11. *Designates* Friday, 25 Jumada I A.H. 1408 (15 January 1988) as a Day of Islamic Solidarity with the Palestinian Uprising, and calls for the Friday sermon on that day in all mosques throughout the Muslim world to be devoted to the uprising and the agony, suffering and resistance of the Palestine people, and for prayers for the dead to be read that day in memory of the martyrs;

12. *Calls upon* Islamic Governments to make appropriate arrangements for organizing a fund-raising campaign, collecting one day's salary in cash or in kind as an expression of solidarity with the Palestinian people and their uprising;

13. *Decides* to address telegrams to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the President of the Security Council and the heads of the member States of the Security Council, urging their immediate intervention to halt the Zionists' practices against the unarmed Palestinian popu-

lation in the occupied Arab territories, to take deterrent measures against the Israeli entity and to impose sanctions against it in accordance with Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations;

14. *Authorizes* its members to contact the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the permanent members of the Security Council in order to apprise them of developments in the situation in the occupied Palestinian territories and to urge them to work for the implementation of Security Council resolution 605 (1987), including the compulsory international protection of Palestinian citizens under occupation;

15. *Expresses its deep appreciation and gratitude* to King Hassan II, the Chairman of the Al-Quds Committee, for his commendable efforts and his invitation to hold an emergency meeting of the Committee, which reflect his concern for Al-Quds al-Sharif and all the other occupied Arab territories, the importance that he attaches to the resistance of their population and the support and defence of their inalienable national rights and his continued efforts to restore Arab Islamic sovereignty over Al-Quds al-Sharif; the members of the Committee also express their appreciation and thanks to the Moroccan people for the warm welcome and generous hospitality extended to them;

16. *Requests* the general secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference to circulate this communiqué to all member states of the organization.

DOCUMENT S/19466

Algeria, Argentina, Nepal, Senegal, Yugoslavia and Zambia: draft resolution

[*Original: English*]
[*29 January 1988*]

The Security Council,

Having considered the Secretary-General's report of 21 January 1988 [*S/19443*] pursuant to resolution 605 (1987),

Expressing its grave concern over the increasing sufferings of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territories,

Bearing in mind the inalienable rights of all people recognized by the Charter of the United Nations and proclaimed by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[3]

Reaffirming that the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[1] is applicable to the Palestinian and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967, including Jerusalem,

Commending the International Committee of the Red Cross for its activities in the occupied territories,

Commending also the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East for its invaluable work,

Conscious of the urgent need to resolve the underlying problem through a comprehensive, just and lasting settlement, including a solution to the Palestinian problem in all its aspects,

1. *Expresses its deep appreciation* to the Secretary-General for his report;

2. *Calls upon* Israel, as the occupying Power and as a High Contracting Party to the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, to accept the *de jure* applicability of the Convention to the Palestinian and other Arab territories occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem, and fully to comply with its obligations under that Convention;

3. *Recalls* the obligation of all the High Contracting Parties, under article l of the Convention, to ensure respect for the Convention in all circumstances;

4. *Calls again upon* Israel to desist forthwith from its policies and practices which violate the human rights of the Palestinian people;

5. *Requests* Israel to facilitate the task of the International Committee of the Red Cross and of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, and requests all Members to give them their full support;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to monitor the situation in the occupied territories by all means available to him and to make regular and timely reports to the Council;

7. *Affirms* the urgent need to achieve, under the auspices of the United Nations, a comprehensive, just and lasting settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict, an integral part of which is the Palestinian problem, and expresses its determination to work towards that end;

8. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue his endeavours to promote such a settlement and to keep the Council regularly informed;

9. *Decides* to keep the situation in the Palestinian and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967, including Jerusalem, under review.

DOCUMENT S/19467

Letter dated 1 February 1988 from the representative of Algeria to the President of the Security Council

[*Original: English*]
[*1 February 1988*]

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 1 February 1988 addressed to you by Mr. Zehdi Labib Terzi, Permanent Observer of the Palestine Liberation Organization to the United Nations.

I kindly request that you circulate this letter as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Hocine DJOUDI
Permanent Representative of Algeria to the United Nations

ANNEX

Letter dated 1 February 1988 from the observer of the Palestine Liberation Organization to the President of the Security Council

I am asked by Yasser Arafat, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization, to bring the following to your immediate attention. This morning Zionist settlers from Kiryat Arba attacked Dheisheh Palestinian refugee camp in the Israeli occupied Palestinian territories. After physically assaulting camp residents the settlers kidnapped 30 children.

DOCUMENT S/19469*

Letter dated 1 February 1988 from the representative of Bahrain to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Arabic/English*]
[*1 February 1988*]

In my capacity as Chairman of the Group of Arab States for the month of February 1988, I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 1 February 1988, addressed to you by Mr. Zehdi Labib Terzi, Permanent Observer of the Palestine Liberation Organization to the United Nations.

I should be grateful if you would kindly arrange for the text of this letter and its annex to be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Karim Ebrahim AL-SHAKAR
Permanent Representative of Bahrain to the United Nations

ANNEX

Letter dated 1 February 1988 from the observer of the Palestine Liberation Organization to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose herewith a letter from the Union of Workers in the Field of Education in the Occupied Territories.

ENCLOSURE

Letter dated 31 January 1988 from the Union of Workers in the Field of Education in the Occupied Territories addressed to the Secretary-General

Not content with rejecting successive resolutions of the United Nations requesting that the injustices suffered by the Palestinian people should cease and that the people should be able to enjoy all its national rights, the Israeli leaders resort to barbarous methods to curb the children of the Palestinian people and quell their current uprising against the occupation. The powerful wave of popular indignation against the repressive action officially decided by the Israeli Cabinet has swept through all segments of our people—children, youth, women and the old—as your envoy to the occupied territories was able to observe without difficulty, even though the occupation authorities did not facilitate his task or permit him to converse with the representatives of our Palestinian people concerning the daily practices of the occupation forces responsible for quelling the uprising of our people. In the course of the repressive action, the occupation forces have used firearms and tear-gas grenades, tens of martyrs have fallen and hundreds of persons have been injured. The occupation authorities initiated a series of deportations outside national territory and of collective and arbitrary arrests of thousands of persons, whose trials were a travesty, hastily conducted and not in keeping with any of the legal texts and principles. They finally resorted to clubbing and breaking the bones of hundreds of the children of our defenseless people. Moreover, all the educational establishments have been closed for more than a month.

We, the Union of Workers in the Field of Education in the Occupied Territories, are convinced that your active intervention would lead to the effective use of United Nations capabilities to put an end to the injustice suffered by the Palestinian people, to support the demands arising from its current uprising and to back its struggle to establish an independent State under the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

The action open to you because of your contacts at the international level will help to exert greater pressure on the occupation authorities so as to induce them to end forthwith the barbarous practices of their forces. This means the withdrawal of those forces from the cities, camps and villages; the release of all the persons arrested in the course of the uprising; the repeal of all emergency laws, which are antiquated, and especially of all deportation measures; action to prohibit the desecration of religious sanctuaries, the entry into educational establishments and the premises of trade unions and other associations and the ordering of their closing; action to prevent the occupation authorities from intervening in the internal affairs of those associations; and the application of the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949.[1]

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/115-S/19469.

DOCUMENT S/19470*

Letter dated 1 February 1988 from the representative of Bahrain to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*1 February 1988*]

In my capacity as Chairman of the Group of Arab States for the month of February 1988, I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 1 February 1988, addressed to you by Mr. Zehdi Labib Terzi, Permanent Observer of the Palestine Liberation Organization to the United Nations.

I should be grateful if you would kindly arrange for the text of this letter and its annex to be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Karim Ebrahim AL-SHAKAR
Permanent Representative of Bahrain to the United Nations

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/116-S/19470.

ANNEX

Letter dated 1 February 1988 from the observer of the Palestine Liberation Organization to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose herewith an urgent appeal from Palestinian and Arab writers and journalists.

ENCLOSURE

Letter dated 30 January 1988 from Palestinian and Arab writers and journalists based in Cyprus to the Secretary-General

We, the undersigned Palestinian and Arab writers and journalists based in Cyprus, appeal to you to intervene immediately to halt Israel's brutality and repressive measures against the Palestinian civilians in the occupied territories.

Waves of random killing of innocent and unarmed civilians, together with long food and medical blockades, have been continuing for seven weeks now, with no sight of an end in the coming days, despite great efforts by the international community to this effect.

Loss of life has become a potential threat to every man, woman and child in the occupied Palestinian territories. After being deprived of their national and human rights, Palestinian civilians under occupation have come to the point of losing their very right to life. The beating up of Palestinians of both sexes an all ages by Israeli soldiers has severely shocked the civilized world's conscience. The widely practised policy of smashing civilians' bones will go down in history as the Zionist State's invention and contribution to modern times. Such Israeli policies contravene the Charter of the United Nations and international conventions, especially the Fourth Geneva Convention[1] regulating the behaviour of an occupying Power in the territories it occupies.

Journalists and press institutions have been no exception to the Israeli violence inflicted on the Palestinian people. Scores of journalists have been served with administrative detention and house-arrest orders on emergency-law basis. Palestinian papers and publications have been issued with military distribution bans for lengthy periods, with an eye to silencing Palestinian voices exposing to local and international public opinion Israel's outrageous tyranny and repression. Our colleagues in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip are thus prevented from carrying out their professional, national and human duties.

A just and lasting solution to the Palestinian cause, which is the core of the Middle East conflict, is essential to world peace. Any such solution should guarantee the legitimate national rights and aspirations of the Palestinian people; in the forefront are their right to return, to self-determination and to the establishment of an independent State on their national soil under the leadership of the PLO, their own self-opted and internationally recognized sole legitimate representative.

Meanwhile, and in the light of Israel's ongoing atrocities in the occupied territories, we appeal to you to exercise fully the United Nations powers invested in you as Secretary-General to provide international protection for our people under occupation and to urge various United Nations agencies and specialized bodies, as well as the international forum's Member States, to join efforts to safeguard Palestinian lives, holy places and property.

The United Nations Security Council, currently debating the situation in the light of your report, has the obligation before the world to see that its resolutions 605 (1987), 607 (1988) and 608 (1988) are respected and implemented by Israel. Israel's neglect of world opinion and defiance of the Security Council resolutions presents the United Nations with the challenge of proving whether it possesses the tools to implement its resolutions. Sanctions, for which we believe the time has become ripe, are the proper international leverage to enforce upon Israel respect for the international will, ceasing its oppression against the Palestinian people and withdrawing its troops from Palestinian and other Arab territories, including Jerusalem.

Signed by the following Palestinian and Arab writers and journalists based in Cyprus[6]

DOCUMENT S/19471

Letter dated 1 February 1988 from the representative of Iraq to the Secretary-General

[Original: Arabic]
[1 February 1988]

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to refer to the Friday sermon given by Rafsanjani, President of the Iranian Parliament, as broadcast by Radio Tehran on 29 January 1988, at 6.45 p.m. local time, from which the following passage is an extract:

> "I shall speak to you of the morale of our sons and the morale of the enemy. Seven Iraqis surrendered to two of our combatants, whom I know personally. They are schoolboys, not yet 17, who succeeded in taking seven prisoners although they had only one gun between them and had walked seven kilometres. When I asked them whether they were not afraid of attacking the enemy in this way, they answered me that they were capable of destroying an entire column."

You will observe from this typical sermon of Iranian propaganda that a senior Iranian official openly acknowledges and states what news bulletins have been reporting for a long time, namely that the Iranian régime is sending young people to the front, thereby demonstrating its inhumane character and its refusal to uphold all the moral and juridical principles and committing the worst crimes in order to continue its war of aggression and expansion against Iraq and the countries of the region.

We do not doubt that the international community condemns the inhumane practices of the Iranian régime, and we request the United Nations as a whole and the Security Council in particular to induce the Iranian régime not to persist in the war of aggression and expansion by imposing on it the measures provided for in the Charter of the United Nations in accordance with Security Council resolution 598 (1987), which has binding force.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ali Mahmoud SUMAIDA
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission of Iraq
to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19472*

Letter dated 1 February 1988 from the representative of Thailand to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*2 February 1988*]

Upon instructions from my Government, and further to the letters of the Permanent Representative of Thailand concerning the incidents along the Thai-Lao border in the vicinity of Romklao village, Chart Trakarn district, Phitsanulok province, I have the honour to transmit to you the text of the statement issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand dated 22 January 1988 (see annex I), together with excerpts on the same subject from the statement given by Air Chief Marshal Siddhi Savetsila, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Thailand, to the Foreign Correspondents Club of Thailand, at Bangkok, on 27 January 1988 (see annex II).

In this connection, I have further the honour to request that the documents be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Nikhom TANTEMSAPYA
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission of Thailand
to the United Nations

ANNEX I

Statement issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand on 22 January 1988

As a result of incursions by Laotian troops into Thai territory in the vicinity of Romklao village, Phitsanulok province, since May 1987, the Royal Thai Armed Forces had issued several warnings to the Laotian intruders to cease the action and withdraw from Thai soil. Turning deaf ears to the repeated warnings from the Thai side, the Laotian troops have continued to occupy the area that clearly belongs to Thailand.

In this regard, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand has made statements on several occasions repeating that the area in the vicinity of Romklao village falls within Thai territory and that this has been confirmed by the Franco-Siamese treaty and protocol of 1907. However, in the statements by the spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Laos to the representatives of the diplomatic corps and the press at Vientiane on 14 January 1988, and that of the Laotian Embassy at Bangkok today, the Laotian side tried to distort and obscure the facts concerning the Thai-Lao boundary line in the area. After a careful verification of the relevant evidence by the various Thai authorities concerned, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand wishes to reiterate the facts as follows.

1. *Text of the 1907 Treaty and Protocol*

1.1 The spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Laos distorted the facts of the 1907 treaty and protocol. For instance, the name of "Phu Soi Dao", which does not exist in the 1907 treaty and protocol, was referred to by the Laotian side as a point for determining the boundary line.

The 1907 treaty and protocol reads:

> "Du côté de Luang-Prabang, la frontière se détache du Mékong, au sud, à l'embouchure du Nam-Huong, et suit le thalweg de cette rivière jusqu'à sa source, qui se trouve située au Phu-Khao-Mieng. De là, la frontière suit la ligne de partage des eaux entre le Mékong et la Ménam et aboutit au Mékong, au point appelé Keng-Pha-Dai, conformément au tracé adopté par la précédente commission de délimitation du 16 janvier 1906."

1.2 In accordance with the above-mentioned treaty and protocol, the Nam Huong (Nam Heung) was taken as the boundary line between Thailand and Laos. At the point where Nam Huong (Nam Heung) branches off into Huong Pa Man and Nam Huong Nga (Nam Heung Nga), the treaty and protocol took as the boundary line the river originating from Phu-Khao-Mieng, namely, Nam Huong Nga (Nam Heung Nga) River, in conformity with the map relevant to the treaty and protocol.

2. *Maps*

2.1 As far as the relevant maps are concerned, the spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Laos deliberately picked on the maps that are now out of use. He even referred to the map published 14 years ago (1974) instead of the latest and correct edition of the Laos map produced by the Soviet Union for Laos in 1987, the latter of which clearly demonstrates that the disputed area in the vicinity of Romklao village falls within Thai territory.

2.2 As for the Thai maps that the Lao spokesman chose for demonstration, they too have been out of use for a long time; for example, the incorrect edition of map series L 708 was referred to and displayed despite the availability of a correct edition. Similarly, the Lao spokesman did not use the correct revised edition map series L 7017.

2.3 As for the correct boundary line, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand has stated publicly before that, in accordance with the treaty and protocol and various relevant maps, the area in question lies within the Thai territory as evidenced by the three following maps:

1. Map relevant to the Franco-Siamese treaty of 1907;
2. The correct revised edition of map series L 7017 produced from aerial photography;
3. The Laotian official map produced by the Soviet Union in 1987.

In an attempt to resolve the problem, the Thai Government has stated the facts, both in Thailand and in international political forums, to promote a correct understanding of the problem. In particular, the Laotian side was called upon to co-operate in the peaceful solution of the problem. However, the Laotian side has disregarded the Thai calls time and again. Finally, the Royal Thai Armed Forces had to take decisive measures to push back the Laotian troops from the Thai territory. The Thai Government is well aware of the inseparable and profound relationship between the peoples of the two countries and is confident that both sides will finally be able to resolve the problem by means of negotiation. The Thai Government has made efforts to open channels for substantive and constructive talks. On 25 December 1987, the Thai Ambassador to Laos submitted the proposal of the Royal Thai Government for a meeting between representatives of the two countries within a framework that would ensure concrete results, and not just for the sake of having such negotiation and allowing the further worsening of the relationship between the two countries as in the past. Despite the fact that the Laotian side had categorically rejected the Thai proposal, the Thai Government has never given up its efforts and had therefore accordingly assigned the Thai Ambassador at Vientiane to explain to the Laotian side once more on 4 January 1988. Yet, the Laotian side continued to reject the proposal and even demanded that the Thai armed forces be withdrawn from the Thai territory in the vicinity of Romklao village. Moreover, the Laotian side still further attempted to distort and obscure the facts by producing obsolete and out-of-date documents to support its allegation that Thailand made an incursion into its territory.

In addition to the proposal for talks, the Royal Thai Government has also proposed to the Laotian side to send a high-ranking economic and trade mission to Laos. It is regrettable that the Laotian side has also chosen to reject this proposal.

While it was Laos that violated Thailand's sovereignty, the continuous attempt by Laos to attack Thailand through State media propaganda and to smear individual Thai cabinet members, as well as to incite the Lao people with feelings of hatred towards the Thai people, demonstrate the hidden and insincere intention of Laos to join Thailand in resolving the problem and in promoting cordial relations between the two countries. The Thai side has been exercising full restraint in its serious search for a solution and had never exploited the incident as propaganda against Laos. At the same time, the Thai side has submitted several proposals to Laos so that negotiations could begin in earnest. Despite the existing problem, Thailand has still retained the mechanism that facilitates normal relations, such as the Thai purchase of a large quantity of electricity from the Laotian Nam

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/117-S/19472.

Ngum Dam, the promotion of trade and local contacts along the border and the opening of temporary border crossing points.

The Royal Thai Government hopes that the above Thai stance represents a firm determination to promote the already long-standing and close ties between Thailand and Laos. Thailand also hopes that Laos will reconsider its position and sincerely co-operate with Thailand in resolving the problem seriously for the well-being of the Thai and Laos peoples.

ANNEX II

Excerpts from the statement given by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Thailand at the Foreign Correspondents Club of Thailand, at Bangkok, on 27 January 1988

We have tried to maintain a sense of proportion about this problem. We intend to treat it as an isolated incident. That is why we have allowed normal interactions between the two sides to continue uninterrupted. We want to discuss this incident with the Laotian side in the spirit of mutual restraint. We have applied a policy of restraint in our efforts to defuse the situation and have used force as an instrument of last resort in order to protect our territorial integrity. After careful examination of relevant historical and legal evidence, we are convinced that the area in question lies in our territory. Hence, we are prepared to enter meaningful negotiations with Laos only when there are no longer Lao troops on our soil. It would be a grave mistake if the Laotian Government were to try to use this incident to pressure Thailand on other issues. None the less, I am convinced that an amicable solution between us is not beyond the realm of possibility.

Let me state firmly at this juncture that the Thai Government does not merely wish to maintain amicable bilateral relations with Laos, but also genuinely wishes to facilitate any economic improvement of the Lao people, particularly by intensifying our bilateral trade relations. Our two peoples and nations need to build up mutual trust upon which meaningful negotiations can be based. Our continued purchase of electricity from Laos in spite of its high cost, as well as our co-operation in the transit of goods to Laos, are evidence of our genuine efforts to promote mutual trust between our two countries. We will continue our efforts in a neighbourly spirit to work out possible modality to get us back on the road to genuine dialogue.

DOCUMENT S/19473*

Letter dated 2 February 1988 from the representative of Jordan to the Secretary-General

[Original: Arabic]
[3 February 1988]

At a time when the international community, both inside and outside the framework of the United Nations, is preoccupied by the deteriorating situation in the Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967, including Jerusalem; when the Security Council has once again called upon Israel, the occupying Power, to comply immediately and rigorously with the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[1] and to desist forthwith from the pursuit of those of its policies and practices which constitute a violation of the provisions of that Convention; and when the Council reaffirms the urgent need for the achievement of a just, durable and peaceful solution of the Arab-Israeli conflict, I am sending you the most recent information—relating to the period from 1 to 31 December 1987—which clearly demonstrates that the Israeli occupation authorities remain determined to carry out their plans for the expansion of Israeli settlement, the confiscation of land and the perpetration of acts of aggression against Arab citizens and their property in the occupied Arab territories, in violation of the principles of international law relating to military occupation and, in particular, the Hague Convention of 1907[7] and the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949.[1]

In emphasizing to you, and through you to the international community, the danger which the continuation of such a policy represents for international peace and security and for peace efforts and prospects in the region, I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Abdullah SALAH
Permanent Representative of Jordan
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Monthly report on Israeli settlement operations and acts of aggression against Arab citizens and their property for December 1987

During the month of December 1987, the occupied Arab territories were the scene of the largest and broadest popular uprising of the year. Since the first week of December Arab citizens have been conducting continuous demonstrations, strikes and acts of protest in response to the Israeli practices and acts of aggression against them. Every day one or more individuals are martyred, the authorities detain dozens, indeed hundreds, of Arab youths and children, tighten their "iron grip" and impose further restrictions and various collective punishments. These practices are causing the anger of Arab citizens to increase yet further. The streets of the cities and camps are crowded with protest demonstrations, and more people are being killed and wounded.

During the month in question, the Israeli occupation authorities detained some 4,900 members of the population of the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip. Hundreds of them appeared before military courts, where they were accused of committing "security violations". Many of them were the victims of show trials at which they were sentenced to *de facto* imprisonment and exorbitant fines.

Perhaps the most abhorrent action of the Israeli occupation authorities during the recent disturbances has been the stress which they have laid on orders to Israeli soldiers to open fire on Arab citizens. This lethal policy on the part of the Israeli authorities has caused the death of 52 male and female citizens and the wounding of some 628 others.

Meanwhile, the occupation authorities' determination to suppress the Arab uprising against the Israeli occupation has not prevented them from persisting in their daily pattern of aggression against Arab territory and the Arab population. The authorities have issued orders for the confiscation of thousands of dunums of Arab land and have continued their desperate attempts to increase Jewish settlement in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and to draw up plans to attract and encourage Jews, particularly new immigrants, to take up residence in those settlements which have already been established in the occupied West Bank.

As regards attacks on the liberties and human rights of the Arab population, the Israeli authorities have continued to pursue their inhuman policy and to impose harsh individual and collective punishments. These include the sentencing of 157 citizens from the West Bank and the Gaza Strip who have appeared before the military courts. The sentences range from life imprisonment and imprisonment for a number of months to the imposition of heavy fines. The occupation authorities have placed nine Arab citizens under administrative detention for a period of six months, placed six citizens under house arrest, ordered the deportation of two citizens, destroyed

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/118-S/19473.

18 Arab houses, imposed a curfew in a number of cities and camps in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and ordered the closure of all Arab schools, eight intermediate colleges and institutes and three universities.

Details of the acts of aggression carried out during the month in question are as follows.

I. Confiscation of land

During the month of December 1987, the Israeli occupation authorities confiscated more than 2,020 dunums of land in the occupied West Bank. The confiscations occurred in the following areas:

1. On 6 December residents of the Ginat Shomron settlement, located south of the village of Kafr Laqif, took over 20 dunums of land belonging to citizen Salih Mahmud Hassan. Israeli bulldozers levelled the plot, after its owners had been removed by force, in preparation for the construction of a Jewish synagogue.

2. On 7 December the Israeli authorities announced the confiscation of an undetermined area of land in the village of Bayt Immar (Hebron district). The land, which is also known by the names Wadi al-Ammasin and Wadi al-Battikh, lies between the two settlements of Efrat and Mefdal. The confiscated land is expected to be absorbed into the two Israeli settlements.

3. On 17 December the Israeli authorities confiscated about 2,000 dunums of land belonging to the village of Qusin, west of the city of Nablus.

4. On 28 December the Israeli authorities confiscated thousands of dunums belonging to a number of Arab citizens in areas called Al-Zaqur, Al-Ghazalat, Abu Salman, Abu Qarin, Kafr Barra, Zahr Abu Umran, Khallat al-Ghaydh, Khallat al-Kabrah, Kafr Qasim, Al-Marjah, Khallat al-Masayah and Al-Marj. This confiscated land lies in the Qalqilyah and Tulkarm districts.

II. Settlement

The Israeli occupation authorities continue to carry out their plans to increase Jewish settlement in the occupied territories and to expand existing settlements with increasing numbers of Jewish settlers. Reports from the occupied territories indicate that the Israeli authorities are making intensive efforts, within the framework of a new plan designed to increase the number of Jewish settlers in the occupied West Bank, to raise their number to the equivalent of 40 per cent of the total Arab population. This was revealed by one of the Israeli Prime Minister's advisers on 3 December and was confirmed by the Chairman of the World Zionist Organization's Settlement Department, when he told a press conference on 5 December at the settlement of Eilon Moreh, near Nablus, that "Israel's objective in the West Bank [was] to raise the proportion of Jews to 40-60 per cent of the total population of the occupied West Bank by the end of the present century". During the same press conference, the Chairman of the Settlement Department added that preparations were currently under way in Israel for the settlement of a further million and a half Jewish settlers in the occupied West Bank during the next 12 months and that plans and projects were ready to be implemented for the establishment of new settlements in the Hebron and Nablus districts, in the villages and near to the other Arab cities in the occupied West Bank.

With regard to settlers in the occupied West Bank, Israeli press sources in the occupied territories quoted Haim Ahron, Head of the Jewish Agency's Immigration Section, as saying, during his attendance of the ceremony opening the Centre for Absorption of New Immigrants at the Ariel settlement, near Nablus, that about 20 per cent of the settlers in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip were new immigrants and that 12,000 Jews out of a total of 70,000 who had migrated to Israel during the past five years had chosen to take up residence beyond the so-called "Green Line". More than half the Jewish immigrants coming from the United States of America were being absorbed into settlements in the occupied West Bank. Ahron also stated that some 80 per cent of the population of Jewish settlements in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip were religious and fanatical Jews. The Centre for Absorption of New Immigrants which was recently opened at the Ariel settlement is the first absorption centre to be established beyond the "Green Line".

The fanatical rightist Israeli deputy Dov Shilansky, Chairman of the Israeli Knesset's Interior Committee, called for an increase in the pace of settlement in the occupied West Bank. A statement of his published on 24 December included a remark to the effect that "the solution to the current situation in the region lies in the affirmation and strengthening of Jewish settlement activities". He was joined in the call for increased settlement by other deputies who said that an increase in the number of male and female Jewish settlers in the occupied territories constituted the best solution to the problem of "terrorism" there.

Also on the subject of increased settlement, Matityahu Drobles, Chairman of the Jewish Agency's Settlement Department, announced that his Department had drawn up a new settlement plan covering the period up to the year 2000. Drobles presented his plan, which he entitled "Climb the mountain and open up the desert", to the International Zionist Conference which was held during December in Jerusalem. The plan provides for the establishment of dozens of new Jewish settlements on the mountain ranges in various parts of the occupied West Bank.

Other settlement news includes the reports by Israeli newspapers of the completion of approval procedures and preparations for construction of the first stage of the new Avni Hefitz settlement in Tulkarm district. The Israeli newspaper *Davar* reported that preparatory work had been practically completed for the construction of 78 residential units in the settlement, to be built on a "do-it-yourself" basis. The settlers are to build their own homes, and plans are then to be drawn up for the establishment of infrastructure, the installation of water and drainage systems and the building of roads. The Jerusalem newspaper *Al-Sha'b* printed a report on 31 December to the effect that the settlement was to be divided into four areas, three of which would be designated for residential purposes and in which some 2,000 residential units would be built, with the fourth area being designated for the construction of industrial facilities. A road would be built beyond the city of Tulkarm to link the main road to the settlement.

In occupied Jerusalem, and in connection with the plan to settle Jews in the historic city, 22 Jewish families have moved into the Aqabat al-Khalidiyah quarter in the Old City of Jerusalem. There are also 500 religious Jews in occupied Jerusalem's religious schools.

In the occupied Gaza Strip, Israeli army forces have established a military observation post comprising a number of Israeli army tents to the east of the village of Bayt Lahia. Arab citizens residing in the Gaza Strip expect the post to be converted into a new military settlement since the Israeli authorities announced their intention to establish such a settlement some time ago.

III. Acts of aggression against Arab land, Arab citizens and their property

The Israeli occupation authorities carried out a number of acts of aggression during December. In doing so, they acted alternately with Jewish settlers and with other Jewish extremists and racists.

Details of acts of aggression which resulted in damage to the person, property or land of Arab citizens are as follows.

(a) *Aggression against Arab land*

1. On 1 December "unidentified persons" uprooted olive trees on a four-dunum plot of land belonging to the Arabs of Al-Rashaydah (Bethlehem district).

2. On 2 December a large force comprising members of the army, the Frontier Guard and the Israeli police uprooted some 400 olive trees and 200 young vines planted on land in the village of Husan (Bethlehem), known as Mawqi' al-Battat. The operation was carried out by bulldozers, which also uprooted metal corner-posts and barbed wire surrounding the approximately 30-dunum plot of land.

3. On 2 December "unidentified persons" uprooted 50 olive trees on land in the Bethlehem district. The Israeli authorities had been trying to take over this land for some time and had already uprooted 200 olive trees in September.

4. On 3 December a large number of settlers, protected by Frontier Guard forces, uprooted 300 olive seedlings on land belonging to the village of Husan (Bethlehem district). This was the second time in a week, as settlers had uprooted 800 olive seedlings on land belonging to the same village only the week before. Israeli bulldozers began to level the land which had been planted with the seedlings in preparation for the construction of a settlement on that site.

5. On 9 December "unidentified persons" cut down 17 olive trees in the village of Till (Nablus).

6. On 11 December "unidentified persons" tore up 50 young olive trees in the village of Azzun.

7. On 12 December "unidentified persons" tore up and destroyed nylon bags for agricultural use on a plot of land covering more than 10 dunums in Qalqilyah. The damage was estimated at more than 3,000 Jordanian dinars.

8. On 16 December "unidentified persons" destroyed 14 plastic greenhouses in the village of Dayr al-Ghusun. Cases of destruction of plastic greenhouses have recently been on the increase.

9. On 21 December settlers in the Amos settlement, near the village of Kisan (Bethlehem), used vehicles to haul earth away from land belonging to the village to their settlement.

10. On 21 December "unidentified persons" cut down 11 more than 30-year-old olive trees belonging to the village of Azzun, in an area situated near the settlement of Ma'aleh Shomron. This represents the fifth time that fruit-bearing olive trees have been cut down in this area.

(b) *Aggression against citizens and their property*

1. On 1 December an Arab citizen was taken to hospital in Tel Aviv after a number of Israelis attacked and beat him up at the central bus station.

2. On 1 December soldiers of the Israeli army in Rafah attacked an Arab student while they were dispersing demonstrations. He received critical head injuries and was taken to hospital.

3. On 1 December two Israeli soldiers raided the campus of the Islamic University at Gaza after entering the Palestine Religious Institute (Al-Azhar), located to the west of the University. They fired bullets into the air inside the University precinct.

4. On 2 December customs officers and a force from the Israeli army raided a shop selling flour and fodder in the village of Bani Suhaylah. They confiscated ledgers and papers belonging to the shop.

5. On 2 December agents of the Customs Department raided driving schools in the Gaza Strip and seized vehicle licences and keys. They ejected students from the schools' vehicles and closed all the schools on the grounds that their owners had not paid taxes.

6. On 3 December a citizen was wounded at Jenin after being fired on by Israeli policemen who claimed that he had refused to obey their orders.

7. On 3 December Israeli troops forcibly entered the campus of Bethlehem University and carried out an extensive search operation. The Israeli forces claim that they found Palestinian pamphlets, books and flags and forbidden posters in a small room during the raid.

8. On 5 December men from the Taxation Department, accompanied by the Frontier Guard, raided the "Al-Karawan" restaurant in Bethlehem and confiscated its contents. The Taxation Department had imposed taxes amounting to 24,000 dinars on the restaurant one month previously, and the raid was ordered on the grounds that the time-limit for payment of the taxes had expired.

9. On 5 December three youths in the Balata refugee camp were injured by soldiers of the Israeli Frontier Guard when they opened fire on the pretext of dispersing a demonstration in the camp.

10. On 6 December settlers belonging to the extremist Kach movement attacked the houses and vehicles of citizens, smashed window-panes and slashed the tires of citizens' cars in Halhul (Hebron).

11. On 7 December an Arab youth was wounded in the back by an Israeli army bullet when he was fired upon while driving his car along the main road in Al-Zahiriyah. It was alleged that he had been speeding.

12. On 7 December "unidentified persons" smashed the windscreens of four private vehicles belonging to Arab citizens during the night. The vehicles were parked on Khallat al-Ruhban Street, Nablus.

13. On 9 December customs duty agents in Qalqilyah raided commercial stores and imposed exorbitant fines on most merchants.

14. On 10 December "unidentified persons" attacked the farm of a citizen in the village of Kafr Qaddum and stole 19 goats. They were reported to have parked their vehicles one kilometre away from the village and to have taken the goats to that spot.

15. On 10 December taxation and customs officers, accompanied by Israeli forces, raided a number of gold shops in the city of Jenin. The taxation officers confiscated large quantities of gold, as well as records and delivery ledgers belonging to the shops.

16. On 11 December investigators from the Israeli intelligence agency Shin Beth severely tortured an Arab youth from the city of Rafah in order to force him to confess to crimes which he had not committed.

17. On 11 December "unidentified persons" attempted to burn down St. Paul's Church in Al-Asbat Street, near Al-Anbiya Street, in the Old City of Jerusalem and set fire to its north-west door.

18. On 11 December the Israeli authorities cut off the electricity supply to the city of Gaza shortly before the time of the Friday prayer. The power cut lasted approximately two hours and was intended to prevent preachers in the mosques from making reference, over the loudspeakers, to the recent bloody events in the Strip.

19. On 14 December the Israeli authorities blocked distribution of the newspaper *Al-Sha'b* in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip for a period of 12 days, on the grounds that the newspaper had published articles and pictures which had not been submitted for censorship. This was the second time in a month that an order preventing distribution of the newspaper had been issued.

20. On 17 December a number of Jewish settlers carried out an act of provocation against Arab citizens in the city of Rafah (Gaza Strip). They drove their vehicles into the Tall al-Sultan quarter, with weapons in their hands, and drove their cars through with a view to demonstrating and emphasizing their presence in Arab quarters.

21. On 17 December a settler opened fire from a sub-machine-gun directly at Arab citizens demonstrating in the Gaza Strip.

22. On 18 December an elderly citizen died in Jerusalem after the Friday prayer at the Al-Aqsa Mosque, as a result of asphyxiation by tear-gas fumes. The gas had been fired by members of the Israeli army at worshippers who had demonstrated, after performing the Friday prayer, in protest against Israeli policy in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

23. On 19 December occupation soldiers raided the Old City of Nablus. They fired bullets at demonstrators and chased many of them into the markets of the Old City. A youth was beaten with rifle-butts and truncheons and taken to hospital.

24. An Arab youth from the village of Al-Zahiriyah, situated to the south of the city of Hebron, was wounded when troops of the Israeli army opened fire on him.

25. On 19 December some 15 members of the fanatical racist Jewish movement Kach invaded the site of the Ibrahimi Shrine in Hebron. They brought with them copies of the Torah and a prayer-platform and performed prayers there.

26. On 20 December the "green patrols" of the Nature Preservation Authority rounded up 305 goats belonging to an Arab citizen from Al-Jahalin residing in the Al-Ayzariyah area, alleging that the goats had entered and were grazing in a closed military zone. The goats were released after their owner had been fined 1400 dinars. Four of the goats were lost as a result of this act of aggression.

27. On 21 December a female citizen in the village of Al-Isawiyah was injured in the stomach when a tear-gas canister fell on her house. Her kidney had to be removed in a surgical operation.

28. Clashes occurred between occupation authorities and citizens on 21 December, with the result that 22 people were injured by Israeli army bullets.

29. On 22 December the Israeli authorities banned the newspaper *Al-Quds* in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip for a period of 30 days.

30. On 22 December Israeli police forces closed the main entrance to the Dheisheh camp by building a wall of reinforced concrete. The area of the camp was also declared to be a closed military zone.

31. On 23 December Israeli soldiers in Bethlehem confiscated many copies of the newspaper *Al-Fajr* from vendors and tore them up.

32. Israeli television reported on 23 December that a group belonging to the Faithful of the Temple Mount, including Gershon Solomon and a large number of other members, entered the Haram al-Sharif, according to a statement by the Israeli police. The police said that they did this in order to commemorate the "Testament of the Maccabeans", who liberated the Temple Mount, and in order to show pride and strength in the face of the Arab demonstrations in Jerusalem and the other parts of the West Bank.

33. On 23 December the newspaper *Yediot Aharonot* reported that a number of employers in Beersheba and the Negev had in the past few days dismissed Arab workers from the Gaza Strip. It also reported that a number of Jewish apartment owners in Beersheba had refused to rent apartments to Arab students.

34. On 23 December Israeli army forces used a helicopter to disperse demonstrators. The helicopter dropped tear-gas canisters on places where citizens were gathered, particularly on the Palestinian refuge camps. The canisters fell inside houses, causing those inside the houses to suffer from attacks of choking.

IV. Israeli practices and violations of human rights in the occupied Arab territories

The overall uprising which occurred this month in the cities and camps of the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip provides convincing evidence of the extent to which the Israeli authorities scorn the rights of Arab citizens in the occupied territories.

The occupied Arab territories this month saw vehement popular anger flare against numerous Israeli practices and violations. The uprising included most of the cities, villages and camps in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. This led the Palestinians in the territories occupied in 1948 to demonstrate and to conduct general strikes in solidarity with those of their

relatives in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip who were suffering ill treatment and violations of their rights to live on their own land. The uprising also spread to the area of Galilee and the Golan.

The total number of people killed as a result of these clashes was 52, with 628 injured and 4,900 detained. Eight hundred and one elementary, intermediate and secondary schools were closed, as well as eight colleges and institutes and three universities in various parts of the occupied Arab territories and the Gaza Strip.

The Israeli authorities also proceeded to impose a curfew in the cities and camps of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and tried to fragment the popular uprising by the use of force.

The disturbances in the occupied West Bank

The overall popular uprising in the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip has continued since 8 December 1987, as a result of repeated acts of aggression by the Israeli army, Jewish settlers, police forces and the Frontier Guard against unarmed citizens. These have caused the popular uprising to continue in all parts of the occupied West Bank and have increased the anger and wrath of the population against the occupation authorities. The anger of the Arab population has been expressed in the form of strikes, the suspension of school activities and the continuation of demonstrations in the cities, villages and camps. The Israeli occupation authorities have admitted deploying very large forces to counter this uprising, to disperse the demonstrations and to attack citizens with their most recently developed weapons.

The newspapers have quoted Israeli army sources as saying that the army forces currently deployed in the occupied West Bank are double the number stationed there in normal circumstances.

In the Gaza Strip, their presence has increased to three times the army force normally stationed there. The number of Israeli soldiers in the Strip at present is estimated at twice the number of soldiers who were there during the occupation of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip in 1967.

Incidents which occurred in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip during December 1987

Tuesday, 8 December: A lorry driven by a settler collided with two vehicles carrying a number of citizens from the Gaza Strip, killing four persons and injuring nine. This was the spark which ignited the tinder in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank.

Wednesday, 9 December: The funeral for the victims of the traffic accident developed into a demonstration at Jabalia. This demonstration then spread to the towns and camps in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank. In the course of the day, one person was killed and over 30 were injured.

Thursday, 10 December: Demonstrations took place at Deir el-Balah, Rafah, Khan Younis, Nuseirat and Gaza. These spread to Nablus and to the Balata and Kalandia camps. During the day, two persons were killed, 27 were arrested and dozens were injured.

Friday, 11 December: The demonstrations were confined to Jabalia camp in the Gaza Strip and to Nablus and Balata camp in the West Bank. In the course of the incidents which occurred on this day, four persons were killed and dozens were injured.

Saturday, 12 December: The demonstrations continued and strikes took place in Ramallah, Nablus, Jerusalem, Hebron and Rafah. More than 50 people were injured.

Sunday, 13 December: The demonstrations and strikes continued in Nablus, Balata, Dheisheh, Jalazone, Kalandia, Hebron, Khan Younis and Rafah. Dozens of citizens were injured.

Monday, 14 December: The demonstrations in the Gaza Strip grew more violent and spread to Beit Lahya, Beit Hanun, Deir el-Balah, Beach camp and the camps of Bureij, Nuseirat and Maghazi. The demonstrations also continued in the West Bank, resulting in one person dead and dozens injured.

Tuesday, 15 December: The incidents spread to Jerusalem, and the demonstrations and strikes continued in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. As a result, five people died and many were injured.

Wednesday, 16 December: Strikes and demonstrations took place, principally around Jerusalem. In particular, they affected Abu Dis, Shu'fat, Jabal el-Mukabbir and Kalandia camp and spread to all the towns in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

Saturday, 19 December: One person was killed and 34 others injured during incidents that occurred in Jerusalem.

Sunday, 20 December: Two persons died and 62 others were injured.

Details are given below concerning violations by Israel of human rights and the punishments inflicted by the occupation authorities on Arab citizens in the occupied Arab territories during December 1987.

1. *Arrests*

(*a*) *Collective arrests*

During the general uprising that took place in the occupied territories, the Israeli occupation authorities proceeded to arrest Arab citizens in an effort to disperse the demonstrators and impose "security" in the Palestinian towns and camps. It is estimated that 4,900 people were arrested and held in the various Israeli detention centres during the uprising in December in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

For the purpose of these mass arrests, the authorities resorted to the most odious means and methods. We shall merely cite the following incidents as an example:

1. On 1 December the Israeli occupation authorities continued their campaign of mass arrests against Bethlehem University. Twenty-two students were arrested.

2. On 6 December the Israeli forces arrested a number of Arab citizens in Palestine Square, in Gaza, following the murder of an Israeli there.

3. On 29 December the Israeli radio announced that the security forces had recently arrested dozens of young people in various areas of the West Bank, accusing them of having taken part in operations to "disturb public order" and of having thrown stones and Molotov cocktails at the Israeli forces during the recent uprising. The places in question are: Qalqilya, Tulkarm, Kharma, Am'ari camp, Balata camp, Ramallah, Hebron Polytechnic Institute and Al-Tur in Jerusalem.

4. On 30 December the Israeli authorities launched a campaign of so-called "preventive" arrests in the Gaza Strip. During this operation, 32 people were arrested, including 9 residents of Jabalia camp, 6 residents from the town of Rafah and 17 from Khan Younis.

(*b*) *Penalties imposed on Arab detainees*

In December Israeli military tribunals in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip imposed prison sentences or fines on 157 Arab citizens, both men and women. The sentences ranged from one month to life imprisonment. The fines inflicted totalled 65,800 shekels (approximately $43,866).

(*c*) *Administrative detention*

Nine persons, mostly students, were placed under administrative detention during December. Their names are: Yusuf Omar, Mustafa Muhammad Nasrallah, Mu'taz Rashid Nasrallah, Hassan Abu Hashiyah, from Balata camp; Nadhir al-Luga, from Rafah; Ridwan Ayyash, from Jerusalem, who is head of the Arab Journalists Association; Munir Arfa, from Dheisheh camp; Nasser Sharayi'ah, from Balata camp; and Nizar Khalil Hussayn, from Rafah.

2. *Restrictions on freedom of movement*

(*a*) *House arrest*

The Israeli occupation authorities have placed under house arrest, for a period ranging from three to six months, six Arab citizens in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. Their names are: Amin Muhammad Musa Khalaf, of Dura village; Yusuf al-Qarm, of Nablus; Ibrahim Mihna, of Deir el-Ghudun; Nazih Muhammad 'Ud, of Hawwarah (Nablus); Yusuf al-Ja'ba, of Ramallah; and Muhammad Mahmud Istitia, of Nablus.

(*b*) *Curfew*

During the same month, the Israeli military authorities imposed a curfew six times in a number of camps, towns and villages of the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip. They were Halhoul, Habla village (Qalqilya), Gaza (town centre) and the Jabalia, Balata and Askar Al-Jadid (Nablus) camps.

3. *Expulsions*

The Israeli occupation authorities ordered the expulsion of two Arab citizens, namely, Jamal Yusuf al-Hindi, a student at Al-Najah college, and Abdel Fattah Ziyadah, of Gaza.

The Israeli periodical *Hadashot* of 27 December stated that, since 1967, some 2,500 Palestinians had been expelled.

4. *Demolition of houses*

During December, the Israeli occupation authorities ordered the demolition of 18 Arab houses, as a punishment or alleging the lack of a building permit, or other violations. A list of the names of the Arab citizens whose houses were demolished, and of the places where this took place, is given below.

Name	*Place*
1. Mohammad Adil Hanani	Beit Furik
2. Abd Adil Abdallah Shahadah	Beit Furik
3. Jamal Fayiz Hussein	Deir el-Hatab
4. Kadir Ouni al-Akhras	Tammun village
5. Zayed Raja Dih	Awarta village
6. Hamdan Mustafa Hamad	Bazzariah village
7. Ahmad Abderrahim Abu Zanhura	Bazzariah village
8. Hussayn al-Aqra'	Al-Zuwayda (Gaza)
9. Adnan Muhammad al-Jada'	Hablah (Qalqilya)
10. Hussayn Yusuf Shahwan	Hablah (Qalqilya)
11. Abd Yusuf al-Qaram	Bidya village
12. Muhammad Adil al-Hadj Hassan	Daud district (Qalqilya)
13. Three houses belonging to Arab citizens	Al-Zhahiriyah (Hebron)
14. Name unknown	Al-Zhahiriyah (Hebron)
15. Name unknown	Al-Zhahiriyah (Hebron)
16. Jamal Aid al-Zagharnah	Rammadin (Hebron)
17. Jamil Aid al-Zagharnah	Rammadin (Hebron)
18. Atwah Abu Samhadanah	Shbura region

5. *Arab citizens killed or injured*

During December, following the general uprising, which spread to all the towns, villages and camps of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, 52 people were killed and about 628 were wounded.

6. *Closure of schools and universities*

Following the mass uprising, the occupation authorities ordered the closure of all schools—primary, preparatory and secondary—in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. They also ordered the closure of Tulkarm College, Al-Azhar Institute, the Modern Society College in Ramallah, Nablus College, the Polytechnic Institute, the College of Science and Technology in Abu Dis, the Pedagogical Institute in Ramallah and the Agricultural Institute in Tulkarm.

Hebron University, the Islamic University and Bir Zeit University were also closed on the orders of the Israeli authorities.

DOCUMENT S/19474

Letter dated 2 February 1988 from the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*3 February 1988*]

I have the honour to enclose herewith the text of the note verbale dated 20 January 1988 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran addressed to the Embassy of Sweden (Interest Section of the United Kingdom) in Tehran.

It would be highly appreciated if this letter and its annex were circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammad Ja'afar MAHALLATI
Acting Permanent Representative
of the Islamic Republic of Iran
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Note verbale dated 20 January 1988 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran addressed to the Embassy of Sweden (Interest Section of the United Kingdom) in Tehran

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran presents its compliments to the Embassy of Sweden (Interest Section of the United Kingdom) in Tehran and has the honour to bring the following to the latter's attention.

According to information received from pertinent authorities of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, on 20 November 1987, at 1338 hours, a British ship at the position of 26°25′ N and 56°03′ E warned the pilot of an Iranian sea-patrol aircraft not to fly closer to the ship.

In view of the inalienable right of all countries to overflight in international waters, the British ship issued its warning in contravention of all recognized international regulations. The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran strongly objects to such actions and demands that they not be repeated.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Embassy of Sweden (Interest Section of the United Kingdom) the assurances of its highest consideration.

DOCUMENT S/19475*

Letter dated 28 January 1988 from the representative of Pakistan to the Secretary-General

[Original: English]
[4 February 1988]

I have the honour to forward herewith the texts of statements made by Mr. Mohammad Khan Junejo, Prime Minister of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, on 27 December 1987 and 25 January 1988 regarding the recent developments in the occupied Arab territories (annex I) and the violation of the sanctity of the Al-Aqsa Mosque (annex II).

I should be grateful if you would arrange for these statements to be distributed as official documents of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Shaukat UMER
Acting Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations

ANNEX I

Statement made by the Prime Minister of Pakistan on 27 December 1987

The Government and people of Pakistan are deeply distressed and outraged at the repression and terror against unarmed Palestinians unleashed by Israeli forces in the occupied Arab territories of the West Bank and Gaza. Such violations of legal and humanitarian norms deserve unqualified condemnation by all nations and peoples.

The Security Council has rightly denounced Israel's brutal measures. Pakistan urges determined follow-up action to ensure Israeli observance of the decisions of the Council and of the obligations under the Geneva Convention relating to occupied territories.

Despite decades of Israeli occupation, a new generation of Palestinians, infused by nationalism and the spirit of Islam, has now raised the flag of freedom. Manifestly, Israel cannot succeed in perpetrating its usurpation of the Palestinian homeland. Neither time nor repression can extinguish the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people. Every atrocity committed against defenceless Palestinians will increase the intensity and determination of their just struggle.

Palestine is the heart of the Middle East problem. Recent events emphasize the urgency of convening an international conference, with the participation of all the parties concerned, including the Palestine Liberation Organization, to evolve a just and comprehensive solution. Such a solution must bring about Israeli withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories, including Al-Quds Al-Sharif, and enable the people of Palestine to exercise their right to self-determination and nationhood.

The Government of Pakistan will, as always, make every endeavour, in collaboration with all fair-minded countries, including especially the Islamic countries, in support of the Palestinian struggle for the realization of justice and peace.

ANNEX II

Statement made by the Prime Minister of Pakistan on 25 January 1988

Israeli forces have unleashed a brutal reign of terror in occupied Palestine, killing and maiming unarmed Palestinians, already dispossessed of their homes and hearth by the Zionists, and desecrating the Holy Al-Aqsa Mosque. The Government and people of Pakistan reiterate their strong and unequivocal condemnation of Israel's inhuman and barbaric actions.

At Pakistan's instance, the Al-Quds Committee decided to observe 15 January 1988 as a day when the entire Muslim Ummah could express its solidarity with the heroic Palestinian uprising. On that day, Israeli forces wantonly attacked the Friday congregation on the premises of the Holy Al-Aqsa Mosque, the first kiblah of Islam. Words are not strong enough to express our indignation and anguish at this insolent affront to Islam's third holiest shrine.

The conscience of all civilized nations has been aroused by Israeli cruelty and obduracy. This must be translated into decisive action to convince Israel to cease its terrorism of the Palestinian people, to accept their national rights and to vacate their homeland.

The 100 million people of Pakistan will never forsake the just cause of their Palestinian brothers. It is our fondest hope to see Al-Quds Al-Sharif restored to the care of Muslims, who were its loving guardians for over 14 centuries. It is our deepest aspiration to see the Palestinian people realize their inalienable right to self-determination and nationhood in their cherished homeland.

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/119-S/19475.

DOCUMENT S/19476*

Letter dated 2 February 1988 from the representative of the Philippines to the Secretary-General

[Original: English]
[3 February 1988]

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a statement issued by the Government of the Philippines concerning the unabated violence and violations of human rights in the Israeli-occupied Arab territories of the West Bank and Gaza.

It would be appreciated if the statement could be issued as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Emmanuel PELAEZ
Acting Permanent Representative of the Philippines to the United Nations

ANNEX

Statement issued by the Government of the Philippines

The Philippine Government deplores the unabated violence and violations of human rights in the Israeli-occupied territories of the West Bank and Gaza.

The Philippine Government urges Israel to abide by Security Council resolutions 605 (1987), 607 (1988) and 608 (1988) to safeguard the rights of the Palestinian people in the Israeli-occupied territories.

The Philippine Government reiterates the view that the 1949 Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War[1] is applicable to the Palestinian and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967, including Jerusalem. The Philippine Government supports the convening of an international peace conference on the Middle East with the participation of all the parties concerned, including the Palestine Liberation Organization and the five permanent members of the Security Council, under the auspices of the United Nations.

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/120-S/19476.

DOCUMENT S/19477*

Letter dated 3 February 1988 from the representative of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Arabic*]
[*3 February 1988*]

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a letter addressed to you by Mr. Jadallah Azzouz Talhi, Secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison, concerning the overt hostility of the United States of America and the latter's determination to launch another attack on the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and the annex thereto distributed as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ali A. TREIKI
Permanent Representative
of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
to the United Nations

LETTER FROM THE SECRETARY OF THE PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE OF THE PEOPLE'S BUREAU FOR FOREIGN LIAISON OF THE LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

In a commentary broadcast on 28 January 1988, the Voice of America, which expresses the point of view of the United States Government, stated that the meeting between President Ronald Reagan of the United States and President Hosni Mubarak of the Arab Republic of Egypt had concretized the convergence of the views of the two countries on various international problems, including what the Voice of America referred to as "the position of the two countries regarding Libyan aggression".

This overtly hostile position, on which the views of the two countries converged and which was expressed in the aforementioned commentary, reflects deliberately aggressive intentions and can only be understood in the context of preparations for a further attack by the United States and Egypt on a State Member of the United Nations.

The savage attack perpetrated by the United States on 15 April 1986 was preceded by a violent press campaign and by consultations with certain countries of the region aimed at persuading them to participate in that ignoble crime, which was condemned by the entire international community.

Now, once again, the United States information media are seeking to implicate the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya by referring to a response to alleged Libyan aggression. But who will be the target of this aggression, when we remain within our frontiers and it is we who are threatened? These official and unjustified threats are an additional sign of the growing tension in the region of the Mediterranean and the Near East and constitute a hostile act which endangers international peace and security.

In drawing these dangerous threats to your attention, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya considers that the Security Council should be on its guard against this danger and assume its responsibilities with regard to the maintenance of international peace and security.

(*Signed*) Jadallah Azzouz TALHI
Secretary of the People's Committee
of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison
of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/121-S/19477.

DOCUMENT S/19479*

Letter dated 4 February 1988 from the representative of Japan to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*5 February 1988*]

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a statement issued on 4 February 1988 by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, Mr. Sosuke Uno, on the conflict in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have this text circulated as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Makoto TANIGUCHI
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission of Japan
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Statement issued on 4 February 1988 by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan

1. Since December of last year, disturbances on the largest scale since the beginning of the Israeli occupation have been happening in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. The Government of Japan deeply regrets that the situation has not improved in spite of the concerns and censures expressed by the international society as represented by related resolutions of the Security Council. Last month, the Government of Japan already called in the Israeli Ambassador in Japan and strongly requested that the Israeli Government observe the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War[1] and exert the utmost self-restraint. The situation so far, however, has shown no sign of improvement, and further casualties were caused by the opening of fire on 1 February. The Government of Japan therefore intends to reiterate to the Israeli side its request for an improvement in the situation.

2. Underlying the recent disturbances is the fact that peace has not been in force in this region for a long time, placing the Palestinian people

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/126-S/19479.

living in the occupied territories in severe political, economic and social conditions. The Government of Japan has taken every opportunity to state that a just, lasting and comprehensive peace in the Middle East is urgently required. Today, I have sent to Mr. Abdel Meguid, the Foreign Minister of Egypt, a message stating that the Government of Japan will support the peace initiative proposed by President Mubarak. I believe that this peace initiative reflects Egypt's sincere efforts towards the achievement of peace in the Middle East, and Japan intends to extend active co-operation to such efforts for peace made by countries concerned. Upon this occasion, the Government of Japan reaffirms its support for the convening of an international peace conference on the Middle East, an idea actively promoted in recent years by the countries concerned, and expresses its intention of making diplomatic efforts towards its achievement.

3. In addition to these diplomatic efforts, the Government of Japan intends to intensify the concrete measures it can take in the future. In this connection, the Government of Japan will co-operate in the activities of the United Nations Development Programme aimed at improving the economic and social conditions of the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, as contained in the Secretary-General's report of 21 January on the situation in the occupied territories [*S/19443*]. The Government of Japan will endeavour to make a contribution of $1 million to the UNDP programme of assistance to the Palestinian people, already included in the draft budget for the financial year 1988.

DOCUMENT S/19480*

Letter dated 5 February 1988 from the representative of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Arabic*]
[*5 February 1988*]

I have the honour to convey to you the enclosed letter, which is addressed to you by Mr. Jadallah Azzouz Talhi, Secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison, and relates to the obvious and unjustified bias of the United States of America against just liberation causes, in particular the Palestinian cause and other Arab questions.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ali A. TREIKI
Permanent Representative
of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
to the United Nations

LETTER FROM THE SECRETARY OF THE PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE OF THE PEOPLE'S BUREAU FOR FOREIGN LIAISON OF THE LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

By exercising its right of veto on 1 February 1988 to prevent the adoption of the draft resolution [*S/19466*] submitted to the Security Council following the consideration of the Secretary-General's report submitted in accordance with Council resolution 605 (1987) [*S/19443*], on the deteriorating situation in the occupied Arab territories, the United States of America confirmed the view expressed for the past two weeks by the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, namely, its obvious and unjustified bias against just liberation causes, in particular the Palestinian cause and other Arab questions.

When one examines the use of the veto by the United States during the period from 17 March 1970 to 2 February 1988, when it exercised that right no less than 54 times, including 28 times on Arab questions, it becomes apparent that the hostility of the United States towards the problems of the Arab nations can be accounted for only by a deliberate policy determined jointly by, on the one hand, the successive United States Administrations and, on the other, the racist Zionist movement and its illegitimate entity which is hostile to the Arab nations, "Israel".

This most recent use of the veto on the part of a great Power which has a particular responsibility towards the maintenance of international peace and security and which sees itself as the leader of the free world amounts to disregard for the efforts of the Secretary-General and the States members of the Security Council and is a violation of the Charter of the United Nations, the 1949 Geneva Conventions,[6] the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[3] and other conventions and principles of international law.

As was apparent from the report of the Secretary-General, the situation in occupied Palestine is very serious. Accordingly, since the Security Council is unable to assume its responsibilities, the Organization must, as a matter of urgency, make a resolute effort to provide due protection for the defenceless Palestinian inhabitants of the occupied territories, who face the Zionist entity and all its weapons, and to enable the humanitarian organizations to convey the necessary aid to that population.

Jadallah AZZOUZ TALHI
Secretary of the People's Committee
of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison
of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/127-S/19480.

DOCUMENT S/19481*

Letter dated 8 February 1988 from the representative of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to the Secretary-General

[*Original: French*]
[*8 February 1988*]

On instructions from my Government and further to my earlier letters concerning the military attack launched by Thailand against Lao territory, I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the statement by the Lao Ministry of Foreign Affairs, dated 5 February 1988, on the violent attacks launched by Thai military forces against Lao positions near Nabonoi commune, Botène district, Sayaboury province, following the Thai declarations concerning the use of force to settle the problem.

I should be grateful if you would arrange for the text of this letter and of its annex to be circulated as an official

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/128-S/19481.

document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Alounkeo KITTIKHOUN
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission
of the Lao People's Democratic Republic
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, issued on 5 February 1988

After Thailand's rejection of the Lao proposals for negotiations, General Chavalit Yongchaiyudh, the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, who is also Commander-in-Chief of the Army, stated on 2 February 1988 that "the Thai Army will use force to drive the Lao troops from the disputed territory within the next two or three days". This statement by the Thai side was borne out by the facts, when a number of military combat units of the second region and special forces from Lopbouri, with the army of the third region, launched unprecedented large-scale attacks on Lao positions, under the direct and personal command of General Chavalit Yongchaiyudh. In order to support these infantry attacks, the Thai command used several squadrons of fighter bombers to drop high-explosive and cluster bombs indiscriminately inside Lao territory, killing innocent civilians, including old people, children and pregnant women. These operations have become increasingly violent since the statement by the Commander-in-Chief of the Army.

Such unparalleled actions by the Thai side constitute an escalation of the attacks of encroachment on Lao territory and confirm the definitive rejection of the Lao Government's negotiation proposals for the dispatch of a delegation to Bangkok at the beginning of February. This was a profound disappointment to the Lao and Thai peoples and to international public opinion, since such actions are contrary to the general trend towards dialogue for the peaceful settlement of the problem.

Even worse, in order to buttress its military operations, the Thai side has unilaterally closed the frontier in several provinces adjacent to Laos and has forbidden trade between inhabitants on the two sides of the Lao-Thai frontier, seriously disrupting their habitual day-to-day relations. The above-mentioned facts clearly prove that the Thai side has no intention of negotiating with the Lao side and has constantly evaded the latter's proposals.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic strongly condemns this new intensification of the attacks of encroachment on Lao territory and demands that the Thai side cease them immediately, in order to create a propitious climate for the search for a negotiated solution to the problem. The Lao side, for its part, is prepared to respond constructively to any official invitation from the Thai side. This consistent position was once again demonstrated in the speech by Mr. Kaysone Phomvihane, President of the Council of Ministers, at the regular plenary session of the Supreme People's Assembly on 2 February 1988: "The Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic will do everything in its power to resolve the dispute with Thailand through negotiation in accordance with the principles contained in the two Lao-Thai joint declarations of 1979". The escalation in the use of armed forces to attack and encroach on Lao territory is a dangerous adventure, since it will merely cause vast devastation to the two Lao and Thai peoples and will in no way bring victory to the Thai side.

The patriotic and peaceful Lao people desires peace and wants to maintain good-neighbourly relations with Thailand, but it flatly refuses to allow the Thai ultra-right reactionaries to attack and encroach on its beloved and sacred territory, even so much as one inch. The only way to resolve peacefully this cruel and inhuman problem imposed by Thailand is negotiation.

DOCUMENT S/19482*

Letter dated 9 February 1988 from the representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Russian*]
[*9 February 1988*]

I have the honour to transmit the text of a statement on Afghanistan made on 8 February 1988 by the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, M. S. Gorbachev.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the statement circulated as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) A. BELONOGOV
Permanent Representative
of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Statement of 8 February 1988 by the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union

The military conflict in Afghanistan has been going on for a long time now. It is one of the most gruelling and painful regional conflicts. There is every indication that certain prerequisites for its political settlement have now emerged. The Soviet leadership considers it necessary to set forth its views in this connection and to make its position absolutely clear.

In the near future, a new round of talks between Afghanistan and Pakistan, through the personal representative of the United Nations Secretary-General, will be held in Geneva. There are considerable chances that this round will prove to be the final one.

By now, documents covering all aspects of a settlement have been almost fully worked out at the Geneva negotiations. They include agreements between Afghanistan and Pakistan on non-interference in each other's internal affairs and on the return of Afghan refugees from Pakistan, international guarantees of non-interference in Afghanistan's internal affairs and a document on the interrelationship among all elements of a political settlement. There is also agreement on the establishment of a verification mechanism.

So what remains to be done? To establish a time-frame for the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan that would be acceptable to all. Precisely that—a time-frame, since the fundamental political decision to withdraw Soviet troops from Afghanistan was taken by us, in agreement with the Afghan leadership, some time ago and was announced at that same time.

The time-frame question has both a technical and a political aspect. Where the technical aspect is concerned, the actual withdrawal of troops will clearly take a certain amount of time. There is hardly any need to go into the details of that here. As for the political aspect of the matter, it is that the withdrawal of Soviet troops is, quite naturally, linked with the prevention of interference in Afghanistan's internal affairs. The prerequisites for that have now been created.

With a view to facilitating the speedy and successful conclusion of the Geneva talks between Afghanistan and Pakistan, the Governments of the USSR and the Republic of Afghanistan have agreed to set a specific date for beginning the withdrawal of Soviet troops—15 May 1988—and to complete the withdrawal within 10 months. The date has been set on the assumption that the agreements on the settlement will be signed no later than 15 March 1988 and that they will accordingly all enter into force simultaneously two months after that. If the agreements are signed before 15 March, the withdrawal of troops will begin correspondingly earlier.

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/129-S/19482.

Recently, another question has been raised: whether the phasing of the Soviet troop withdrawal should be so arranged that a relatively greater portion of the Soviet contingent would be withdrawn during the first phase. Well, that too could be done. The Afghan leadership and we agree to it.

All of this creates the necessary conditions for the settlement agreements to be signed in the very near future.

That, of course, does not mean that no one can now block the settlement, or turn back the talks. But we should not like to think that some States or political figures might want to be held accountable by the Afghan nation and other nations for scuttling a settlement. We believe that common sense will prevail.

The question of the withdrawal of our troops from Afghanistan was raised at the Twenty-seventh Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. That was a reflection of our current political thinking, of our new, modern view of the world. We wanted thereby to reaffirm our commitment to the tradition of good-neighbourliness, good will and mutual respect that began with Vladimir Lenin and the first Soviet-Afghan treaty signed in 1921. Progressive forces in Afghan society have understood and accepted our sincere desire for peace and tranquillity between our two neighbouring countries, which for decades have been setting an example of peaceful coexistence and mutually beneficial equitable co-operation.

Any armed conflict, even an internal one, can poison the atmosphere throughout a region and spread anxiety and alarm among a country's neighbours, to say nothing of the suffering and losses among its own people. That is why we are against any armed conflicts. We know that the Afghan leadership, too, takes the same attitude.

This, of course, is what led the Afghan leadership headed by President Najibullah to engage in a profound rethinking of its political course, which has crystallized in the patriotic and realistic policy of national reconciliation. This was an act of great boldness and courage; not merely an appeal to stop the fighting, but a proposal to set up a coalition Government and share power with the opposition, including those who have taken up arms against the Government and even those who, from abroad, direct the rebels' operations and supply them with weapons and combat equipment obtained from foreign countries. And that proposal was made by a Government vested with constitutional authority and wielding real power in the country.

The national reconciliation policy is a reflection of the Afghan side's new political thinking. It is a sign not of weakness but rather of the moral strength, wisdom and dignity of free, honest and responsible political leaders concerned for the present and the future of their country.

The success of the national reconciliation policy has already made it possible to begin withdrawing Soviet troops from part of Afghanistan's territory. At present there are no Soviet troops in 13 Afghan provinces because armed clashes have ceased there. It can well be said that the more rapidly peace gains ground in Afghanistan, the easier it will be for Soviet troops to leave.

The policy of national reconciliation has provided a political platform for all those who want peace in Afghanistan. What kind of peace? The kind that the Afghan people choose. The proud, freedom-loving and courageous Afghan people, which has gone through many centuries of struggle for freedom and independence, has been, is and will continue to be the master of its own country, which, as President Najibullah has said, is built on a tradition of multi-party politics and a multiple-structure economy.

The Afghans themselves will decide the final status of their country among other nations. The most frequently stated view is that the future peaceful Afghanistan will be an independent, non-aligned and neutral State. Well, we would be only too happy to have such a neighbour on our southern borders.

In connection with the question of beginning the withdrawal of Soviet troops, there is a need to make clear our position on yet another aspect—whether the withdrawal is linked with the completion of efforts to set up a new, coalition Government in Afghanistan, i.e. with bringing the national reconciliation policy to fruition. We are convinced that it is not.

The withdrawal of Soviet troops, combined with other aspects of the settlement, including guarantees of non-interference, is one thing. Various States are involved in it—and, by the way, we believe that Iran, as Afghanistan's neighbour, should not stand aside from the political settlement.

National reconciliation and the establishment of a coalition Government is another thing. This is a purely internal Afghan issue. It can be resolved only by the Afghans themselves, even though they belong to different and even opposing camps. When, however, it is hinted to us that the Soviet Union should take part in talks on that issue, and even talk to third countries, our answer is clear: don't ask that of us, it is none of our business. Or yours, for that matter.

But will not the hostilities flare up even more after the Soviet troops leave? It would hardly be appropriate to prophesy, but I think that such a course of events can be prevented if those now fighting against their brothers take a responsible attitude and try indeed to get involved in peace-building. If however, they are guided not by the arguments of reason, but by emotion multiplied by fanaticism, they will inevitably be faced with the greatly increased will of the Afghan people to see their country at peace and with the obligations of States not to interfere any more in its internal affairs. The Geneva obligations will close the channels for outside assistance to those who hope to impose their will on the whole nation by armed force.

And, if necessary, consideration could be given at that stage to using the possibilities available to the United Nations and its Security Council.

And now about our boys, our soldiers in Afghanistan. They have been doing their duty honestly, with self-sacrifice and heroism. Our people have a deep respect for those who were called to serve in Afghanistan. The State provides them, as a matter of priority, with good educational opportunities and a chance to get interesting, worthwhile employment.

The memory of those who have died a hero's death in Afghanistan is sacred to us. It is the duty of the Party and Soviet authorities to make sure that their families and relatives, and those close to them, are surrounded with concern, attention and kindness.

One last point. When the Afghan knot is untied, it will have the most profound impact on other regional conflicts as well.

Whereas the arms race, which we are working so hard—and with some success—to stop, is mankind's mad rush to the abyss, regional conflicts are open wounds which can lead to the appearance of patches of gangrene on the body of mankind. The earth is literally disfigured by such dangerous patches. Each of them means pain not only for the nations directly involved but for all—whether in Afghanistan, in the Middle East, in connection with the Iran-Iraq war, in southern Africa, in Kampuchea, or in Central America.

Who gains from those conflicts? No one except the arms merchants and various reactionary expansionist circles who have grown used to lining their pockets and making money out of the misfortunes and tragedies of peoples.

The full implementation of a political settlement in Afghanistan will sever an important link in the chain of regional conflicts.

Just as the agreement to eliminate intermediate—and shorter-range missiles is to be folowed by a series of further major steps towards disarmament, with negotiations on them already under way or being planned, likewise behind the political settlement in Afghanistan there already looms a question: which conflict will be the next to be settled? For a next one—and others after it—there will certainly be.

States and nations have sufficient reserves of responsibility, political will and determination to put an end to all regional conflicts within a few years. This is something worth working for. The Soviet Union will spare no effort in this most important cause.

DOCUMENT S/19485*

Letter dated 8 February 1988 from the representative of Egypt to the Secretary-General

[Original: English]
[9 February 1988]

Upon instructions from my Government, I would like to refute the allegations contained in the letter that was sent to you on 3 February 1988 [*S/19477*], which have no

foundation whatsoever. May I ask you to distribute this letter as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Abdel Halim BADAWI
Permanent Representative of Egypt
to the United Nations

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/130-S/19485.

DOCUMENT S/19486*

Letter dated 9 February 1988 from the representative of El Salvador to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Spanish*]
[*9 February 1988*]

I have the honour to refer to the note sent to you on 22 December 1987 in your capacity as Secretary Pro Tempore of the International Verification and Follow-up Commission by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of El Salvador, Mr. Ricardo Acevedo Peralta, requesting that the *ad hoc* group of the Commission review, during its stay in Nicaragua on 5 and 6 January 1988, information on the support being given by the Nicaraguan Government to FMLN [*Frente Farabundo Martí para la Liberación Nacional*] activities conducted from and within Nicaraguan territory.

The Government of El Salvador wishes to express its concern at the persistence of a definite policy of support for an armed group which is trying to destabilize and overthrow a legally constituted Government by means of force and the destruction of the country's economic infrastructure. Such a policy runs counter to and undermines the efforts being made to find a political, negotiated solution to the crisis in the region and in El Salvador in particular. It also runs counter to the commitments entered into by the Central American Presidents under the Esquipulas II agreements [*see S/19085, annex*].

The Government believes that this state of affairs is continuing and that, until all activities in support of armed groups come to a halt, the chances for peace in each of the Central American countries will not be realized. These factors undermine the peace process and must be reviewed by any commission which verifies compliance with the Esquipulas II agreements, so that verification can help eliminate these factors and create a climate of mutual trust conducive to a just, durable and lasting peace in the region.

Accordingly, on instructions from my Government, I should like to request that this letter and the note to which it refers, a copy of which is attached, be distributed as an official document of the forty-second session of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Guillermo A. MELÉNDEZ
Chargé d'affaires, a.i.
of the Permanent Mission of El Salvador
to the United Nations

NOTE DATED 22 DECEMBER 1987 FROM THE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF EL SALVADOR ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to write to you, in your capacity as Secretary Pro Tempore of the International Verification and Follow-up Commission, to request that during its stay in Nicaragua on 5 and 6 January 1988, the *ad hoc* group of that Commission review the following information concerning the support provided by the Sandinist Government to FMLN activities conducted from and within the territory of Nicaragua.

I. *Training centres*

1. The training centre for FMLN commanders is located at the headquarters of FSLN [Sandinist National Liberation Front] mercenary batallion No. 30-11, whose instructors are of Russian origin. FMLN also has a survival school in Nicaragua called the Carlos Arguero Survival School.

2. FMLN members also receive military training at the headquarters of the Sandinist People's Militias (MPS).

II. *Bases (depots for weapons, training, ammunition, equipment and other supplies)*

1. FMLN has a logistical base at El Realejo, Paso Estero Caballo, Consiguina Peninsula, Nicaragua.

2. Since last June, FMLN has stationed two aircraft in Nicaragua which are used in its operations and are equipped to respond immediately to any order from the High Command that they provide aerial support.

3. The Sandinist régime receives FMLN members as scholarship holders, serving as a relay point for their transfer to other countries. In June 1987, six members of FARN [Armed Forces of the National Resistance] completed a political-military training course in Nicaragua, following which they returned to the National University of El Salvador as activists responsible for recruitment, political indoctrination and military training on the university campus.

III. *Residences of FMLN-FDR [Revolutionary Democratic Front] leaders*

1. The residence of José Trinidad (PRTC) [Central American Revolutionary Workers' Party] is located near km. 18-20 on the Carretera Vieja to León, Nicaragua.

2. The General Headquarters of the FPL [Popular Liberation Forces] is located at La Esperanza settlement, Nicaragua.

3. The General Headquarters of the PRTC is located from 300 to 400 metres along the Calle de Tierra leading to the Carretera Vieja, León.

4. The General Command of DRU [United Revolutionary Directorate] is located at km. 10 1/2 on the Carretera Sur, right at the entrance to a police academy, in Managua,

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Nicaragua. The comprehensive radio communication system installed there operates 24 hours a day, transmitting orders to the different war fronts in El Salvador. It is operated by 10 FMLN members—two per organization.

5. There is an FPL safe house at km. 14 1/2 on the Carretera Vieja to León, from which co-ordination is maintained daily by radio communication equipment with FPL groups on the various war fronts in El Salvador.

6. The safe house of leader Shafick J. Handal is located at km. 13 on the highway to Masaya, Nicaragua. The mansion, situated on a hill top, also has a radio communication system.

7. The residence of PRTC leaders Roberto Roza and Mario López is located at km. 9 on the Carretera Vieja, León, and houses an FMLN printing works.

8. The residence of Joaquín Villalobos, leader of ERP [People's Revolutionary Army] is located at km. 16 1/2, on the Carretera Sur, at the turn-off, close to a farm. There are other buildings in which the Information Commission (COMIN) operates and where ERP leaders hold their meetings. Graphic and communication equipment, photographic, film and recording studios, and additional meeting rooms are to be found here.

9. The residence of Fermán Cienfuegos, leader of RN [National Resistance] has radio equipment and a meeting room. It is located in the Los Héroes o Cedros area of Tepelcos, two blocks from Lake Telcor.

10. FPL foreign propaganda staff, who are changed frequently, live at the FPL propaganda building in the Santo Domingo area of Managua, 1 1/2 blocks from the residence of the United States Ambassador.

11. The general offices of the Communist Party of El Salvador (PCS/FAL) [Armed Forces of Liberation] are at the Planetarium, 5 kilometres west of Managua on the Carretera Vieja to León. The PCS/FAL Political Commission, General Command and Chief of Staff are located here, with approximately 10 security personnel. This area is recognized as a militarized zone and the Embassies of Viet Nam, Cuba and others are located here.

12. The offices of the Solidarity Committees are located in a house 100 metres south of the Sandinist Workers' Federation in Managua. The secretaries' pseudonyms are Celia and Mercedes, the latter being the wife of Commander Ramón Suárez.

13. At its base situated off the León road, two kilometres from the Lake Xiluax tourist centre, PRTC co-ordinates its strategic plans to be carried out in El Salvador.

14. PRTC house at Calcom, about three kilometres from the approach to León.

15. House for PRTC members, in the centre of a tourist site at Lake Xiluax.

16. Safe house at Lake Jiloa, Nicaragua, run by Luisa and Julia (pseudonyms).

17. FMLN hospital operating in the Santo Domingo area of Managua.

18. In addition to the safe houses in Managua and the four houses on the Carretera Sur which have been occupied by FMLN members for the past 18 months, 8 to 10 members are occupying another house in the Loma Linda section of Managua. That house has an antenna allowing the transmission and reception of communications to and from El Salvador. Physical training is also provided there.

The five Salvadorians on the FMLN central command are still operating in Nicaragua, and at least 10 key members of FMLN-FDR live in Managua. Accordingly, when its representatives met with the President of Costa Rica, Mr. Oscar Arias, on 7 September 1987, they provided telephone numbers at which they could be reached in Nicaragua.

IV. *Propaganda support centres (radio, printed matter and television)*

1. FMLN uses code-books supplied by the Sandinist Government, and the respective keys are used only once.

2. The FM transmitters of Radio Venceremos are at Cerro Cosiguina, Nicaragua.

3. The offices of Radio Venceremos are in a two-storey house in Las Palmas, Managua.

4. FMLN's news agencies, NOTISAL and SALPRESS, are in Managua.

5. FMLN's publications, the monthly *El Salvador* and the fortnightly *Venceremos*, are printed in Managua, even though they give a mailing address in Mexico.

6. The printing office for FMLN propaganda, for which the Nicaraguan Government supplies everything that is needed except paper and ink, is situated in Managua, 200 metres from the Palacio de Gobierno, in an earthquake-damaged building which looks abandoned but is hooked up to nearby posts for electricity and telephone service.

V. *Supply routes for weapons and other matériel*

1. In an interview published by the Mexican newspaper *Excelsior* on 24 June 1987, President Daniel Ortega publicly admitted for the first time that the Sandinists had helped FMLN-FDR. The article quoted Ortega as acknowledging that "in some cases, members of the Nicaraguan Armed Forces have delivered arms to Salvadorian revolutionaries".

2. In El Salvador, there are two major routes for the dramatically increased resupply operations from Nicaraguan territory:

(*a*) Entry point at the mouth of the River Lempa, island of Montecristo to the north, El Espino beach, Usulután; and El Cuco beach, San Miguel;

(*b*) Jucuarán coast, extending north towards the war fronts, sometimes running parallel to the routes originating in the River Lempa area.

3. Since September 1987, the guerrillas have received seven deliveries of *matériel* by sea.

4. A vessel carrying small machine-guns and sub-machine-guns left Punta Nata, Nicaragua, on 5 October 1987. It landed at La Criba beach, Department of La Unión, El Salvador.

Also on that day, a triple logistical-support column of 70 guerrillas was intercepted near Ojo de Agua, Arriba, in the Department of Usulután. They were each carrying personal arms and four or five M-16 and AR-15 rifles. Twenty-six weapons—seven of them new—were seized, together with corresponding ammunition. A preliminary tracing of the serial numbers has determined that some of them were issued to the United States Army in Viet Nam. They are believed to be weapons from the logistical supplies received by sea between 27 September and 4 October 1987.

VI. *Transmission frequencies, monitors of communications systems and location*

The following are among the frequencies detected: 6615 to 6680 kHz, in the 40-metre band; 3470 to 3760 kHz, in the 80-metre band, and, in the FM band, 106.5 MHz.

VII. *Other relevant factors*

1. The Sandinist Government recognizes the Monsignor Oscar Arnulfo Romero refugee centre, situated in León, Nicaragua.

2. At the Central American University of Nicaragua, seminars are offered for the Unión de Refugiados y Residentes.

3. The Sandinist Government, through the Nicaraguan Social Security and Welfare Institute, manages the FMLN refugee centre in the Buenavista La Loma district, Department of Rivas, Nicaragua. The Institute has appointed Mr. Florentin-Meléndez as "General Co-ordinator" for refugees in Nicaragua. A "Christian community" operates in the district.

4. At the Efraín Hernández textile and clothing co-operative, founded in January 1981 with the assistance of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Salvadorian families, who have no idea who gets the manufactured items, are forced to work, under the threat of a cut-off in relief supplies of food, clothing and shoes.

I would take this opportunity to point out that during the Esquipulas II Summit Meeting, President Ortega admitted that his Government was providing assistance to FMLN. He even admitted, in the presence of the President of El Salvador, Mr. José Napoleón Duarte, that Nicaragua had stepped up its assistance to FMLN whenever the United States had increased military assistance to El Salvador. After the signing of the Central American peace agreement, the Sandinist Government informed the leaders of FMLN-FDR that they would have to reduce their visibility in Nicaragua. They therefore proceeded to move non-essential personnel to Mexico and Panama.

My Government has every confidence that the requested review will assist the International Verification and Follow-up Commission in better fulfilling its functions, and will promote the noble objectives set forth in the Central American peace agreement.

DOCUMENT S/19487*

Letter dated 9 February 1988 from the representative of the Federal Republic of Germany to the Secretary-General

[Original: English/French]
[9 February 1988]

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of the statement on the Middle East made at Bonn on 8 February 1988 by the Foreign Ministers of the 12 States members of the European Community.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have this letter and the attached text circulated as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Alexander COUNT YORK
Permanent Representative of the Federal Republic of Germany to the United Nations

ANNEX

Statement made at Bonn on 8 February 1988 by the Foreign Ministers of the 12 States members of the European Community

1. The Foreign Ministers of the Twelve had a thorough discussion on the situation in the occupied territories and the Arab-Israeli conflict. They expressed their profound concern at the deteriorating conditions in the occupied territories.

2. The *status quo* in the occupied territories is not sustainable. The Foreign Ministers again stressed their conviction that the only solution is by means of a comprehensive, just and lasting political settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict, as proposed by the Twelve in their 1980 Venice declaration [*S/14009*] and their subsequent declarations.

3. The Twelve reaffirm their strong support for an international peace conference, under the auspices of the United Nations, in accordance with their 23 February and 13 July 1987 declarations [*S/18718, annex, and S/18978, annex, respectively*], as the suitable framework for the necessary negotiations between the parties directly concerned. They took note of the wide support given to such a conference and urge all parties to work for agreement on the convening of it as early as possible. The Twelve will continue to play their full part in these efforts.

In that perspective they welcome all recent efforts to inject new impetus in the search towards a negotiated settlement to the conflict.

4. Without prejudging future political solutions, the Twelve remain determined to work towards improving the living conditions of the inhabitants of the occupied territories. The Community is pursuing its own development programme for these territories, has granted additional humanitarian aid to their Palestinian population and is determined to promote direct exports of agricultural and industrial products from the territories to the Community market.

5. The Twelve deplore the Israeli settlement policy in the occupied territories and the diversion of resources to these illegal settlements. They acknowledge the valuable work by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East and the International Committee of the Red Cross in favour of the Palestinian population in the territories, and they expect Israel to facilitate the task of those bodies.

6. The Twelve urge Israel fully to comply with United Nations Security Council resolutions 605 (1987), 607 (1988) and 608 (1988) and with the Geneva Convention Relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949.[1] They deeply deplore the repressive measures taken by Israel, which are in violation of international law and human rights. These measures must stop.

They strongly appeal to all parties to exercise maximum restraint in order to reduce the dangerous level of tension in the occupied territories.

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/131-S/19487.

DOCUMENT S/19488

Note by the President of the Security Council

[Original: English]
[10 February 1988]

The attached letter dated 10 February 1988 from Mr. Keun Park, Permanent Observer of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations, was addressed to the President of the Security Council. In accordance with the request therein contained, the letter, together with its enclosure, is being circulated as a document of the Security Council.

ANNEX

Letter dated 10 February 1988 from the observer of the Republic of Korea to the President of the Security Council

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to bring to your attention the tragic incident in which a commercial passenger airliner, Korean Air Flight 858 of the Republic of Korea with 115 people aboard, was destroyed by an explosion in mid-air during its regular flight from Baghdad to Seoul, while over the Andaman Sea off the coast of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma, at around 1405 on November 29, 1987.

The Republic of Korea immediately instituted an investigation into the cause of the explosion. A summary of the investigation is attached herewith. The findings of the investigation have revealed that the explosion was caused by time bombs planted by two North Korean agents.

In view of the gravity of this act involving the use of force against a civilian aircraft, which poses a threat to the peace and security of the international community as a whole, I request that you call an urgent meeting of the Security Council, in accordance with Article 35, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations, to consider the serious situation arising from this incident.

In this connection, I declare, on behalf of my Government, that the Republic of Korea accepts, as it has always done, the obligation of a peaceful settlement of disputes, as stated in the Charter. I also request that the representative of the Government of the Republic of Korea be invited by the Security Council to participate in the discussion relating to this matter in accordance with Article 32 of the Charter.

I would be grateful if you would have this letter, together with the attached document entitled "Findings of the Investigation Conducted by the Government of the Republic of Korea concerning the Destruction of Korean Air Flight 858", circulated as a document of the Security Council.

ENCLOSURE

Findings of the Investigation Conducted by the Government of the Republic of Korea concerning the destruction of Korean Air Flight 858

February 2, 1988
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Korea

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. On November 29, 1987, Korean Air Flight 858, flying from Abu Dhabi to Bangkok, disappeared soon after its last communication with the ground control station in Rangoon. When the Government of the Republic of Korea came to learn that the airplane was missing, it immediately began to search for it. At the same time, suspecting the possibility of sabotage, the Government began to examine carefully the identities of the passengers on board the airliner, particularly those who had disembarked from the plane in Abu Dhabi. In the process, our suspicion was focused on two Japanese named Hachiya Shinichi and Hachiya Mayumi.

2. Our suspicion was based on a set of dubious facts about the Japanese couple. Among other things, they had traveled from Belgrade to Bahrain via Baghdad, where they had to wait for three hours, and to Abu Dhabi, where they waited for six hours in transit; however, there was a direct flight available from Belgrade to Bahrain via Amman.

3. On the basis of this suspicion, the Korean Embassy in the United Arab Emirates on November 30 requested the Japanese Embassy in the Emirates to check out the identities of the two Japanese. The Japanese Embassy sent their passport numbers and other data to the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Ministry soon found that the passport number for Hachiya Mayumi indicated that the passport was a fake. Therefore, the Ministry instructed its Embassy in Bahrain to request the Bahrain Government to keep the two Japanese from leaving the country. In the meantime, the Embassy of the Republic of Korea in Bahrain had been alerted about the case and instructed to cooperate with the Bahrain Government.

4. On the morning of December 1 the two Japanese appeared at the Manama Airport in Bahrain and were stopped by the Bahrain Government authorities. While being held at the airport for questioning by the Bahraini authorities, the two Japanese attempted to commit suicide, each by chewing the filter tip of a cigarette, in which a poison ampoule was hidden. Hachiya Shinichi died in several hours from the poison, while Hachiya Mayumi survived.

5. Mayumi was hospitalized in Bahrain and soon regained consciousness. The Bahraini authorities questioned her, but she remained silent. The Government of the Republic of Korea sent its special envoy to Bahrain to negotiate the extradition of the suspects to the Republic of Korea on the following grounds. First, both the State of Bahrain and the Republic of Korea are contracting parties to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Civil Aviation (Montreal Convention). Second, the Hachiyas were suspected to have been involved in the disappearance of KAL 858, which was registered with the Republic of Korea. Third, it was strongly suspected that the Hachiyas were secret operatives of North Korea.

6. The Korean Government suspected that the Japanese couple were secret agents of North Korea on several grounds. First, the personal data of Hachiya Shinichi's passport were exactly the same as those of the real Hachiya Shinichi, who had reported to the Japanese police in the meantime. The real Hachiya Shinichi said that he had loaned his passport to a certain man named Miyamoto Akira for about a month in October 1983. We inferred that Miyamoto Akira had been involved in making the forged passport for the individual posing as Hachiya Shinichi. Miyamoto Akira was a man wanted by the Japanese police for his involvement in a previous North Korean spy scandal in Japan. Second, the two suspects had tried to commit suicide with the same type of poison that was used by other North Korean spies caught in the Republic of Korea in the recent past (see photograph 8).[9]

7. The Government of Behrain studied our Government's request and evidence and decided to extradite Hachiya Mayumi to the Republic of Korea, along with the body of her deceased partner and both their belongings (see photograph 20).[9]

8. When Hachiya Mayumi first arrived in Korea on December 15, she pretended to be Chinese. On December 18 she asked for some food in Chinese. Then, she said, also in Chinese, that she was from Heilungkiang province in China and had migrated illegally to Macao in 1986. There, she had worked at a casino until she was adopted as a daughter of Hachiya Shinichi and went to live in Japan afterwards. She even recited some Chinese poems.

9. Her assumed Chinese identity, however, increased the suspicion of the investigative authorities. First, there was no such address as was claimed by Hachiya Mayumi in the Heilungkiang province. Our Government authorities also checked the address in Japan where she claimed to have lived with Hachiya Shinichi. They found that another family was living at the address. The Chinese that Mayumi spoke did not have a Heilungkiang province accent. Mayumi was ignorant of many details of Chinese and Japanese customs. From these and other clues, the investigation authorities concluded that the woman calling herself Mayumi was assuming a false identity.

10. Finally, on December 23, Mayumi confessed that she was a secret agent from North Korea by the name of Kim Hyon-hui, and she began to respond to questions in Korean. Kim Hyon-hui confessed that she was shaken by the stark difference between the real South Korea she was suddenly exposed to and the grim image of South Korea that had been inculcated all through her life in North Korea. She also said she was shocked by the very humane treatment she received from her captors.

The following is a comprehensive picture of the bombing of KAL 858 based upon Kim Hyon-hui's confession and other independent evidence.

II. PERSONAL BACKGROUNDS

11. Kim Sung-il, who posed as a Japanese by the name of Hachiya Shinichi, was a 70-year-old special agent of the Intelligence Department of the Central Committee of the North Korean Workers Party. He was an elite agent, who had had long experience overseas, was fluent in four foreign languages—Japanese, Chinese, English and Russian—and was an electronics technician. His wife and seven children live in Moranbong district, Pyongyang, North Korea.

12. Kim Hyon-hui, 26, who posed as a Japanese woman by the name of Hachiya Mayumi, is the eldest daughter of Kim Won-sok, 58, who formerly worked for the North Korean Foreign Ministry. She graduated from Hashin People's School, then from Chungshin High School and attended the first-year course of the preparatory class at Kim Il-Sung University, all in Pyongyang. In February 1980, while a sophomore at Py-

ongyang Foreign Language College majoring in Japanese, she was recruited as an operative for the Intelligence Department of the Central Committee of the North Korean Workers Party, because of her beauty, talent and family background.

13. Kim Hyon-hui joined the North Korean Workers Party on April 15, 1982. She was awarded a Medal for Meritorious Service to the State on the occasion of the fortieth anniversary of national liberation on August 15, 1985. On April 15, 1987, she was also awarded the Order of the National Flag, Class III.

14. It has been verified that Kim Won-sok, her father, served as a third secretary at the North Korean Embassy in Cuba from 1962 to 1967. He was stationed later at the North Korean Embassy in Moscow. It has been learned that he is currently working as a fisheries representative at the North Korean Trade Representative Office in Angola.

15. At present, three members of Kim Hyon-hui's family are living in Apartment No. 1 on the seventh floor of the Trade Ministry Apartment Building, Munsu 1-dong, Munsu district, Pyongyang. They are Lim Myong-shik, 54, her mother, who used to teach at Manwol High School in Kaesong before she married; her sister, a teacher at Tonghung High School, Pyongyang; and a brother, graduate in Arabic of Pyongyang Foreign Language College. All of her family are staunch members of the North Korean Workers Party.

16. Kim Hyon-hui was a child actress in her elementary school days, owing to her pretty face. On November 2, 1972, while she was in the first grade of high school, she presented a flower bouquet to Chang Key-young, senior Republic of Korea delegate to the South-North Coordinating Committee, when Chang visited Pyongyang to attend the second meeting of that Committee (see photograph 5).[9]

III. Training in North Korea

17. Beginning in April 1980, she underwent a year's training in political ideology, martial arts, shooting, long-distance marching and other physical training courses at Kumsong Political-Military College, an institute for training undercover agents, located in Yongsong district, Pyongyang.

18. For two years, from April 1981 to March 1983, she lived with a Japanese woman at a "guest house" (a safe house for training undercover agents) at Tongbuk-ri, Pyongyang, to become familiar with Japanese customs and manners and improve her Japanese, so that she would be able to pass for a Japanese.

19. In March 1983, she was moved to another "guest house" at Tongbuk-ri for further training in espionage, including automobile driving, photography and secret communications, remaining there for about 16 months until July 1984.

IV. Training overseas

20. In July 1984, Kim Hyon-hui was paired with Kim Sung-il to form a father-daughter sabotage team and underwent thorough training for three years and four months in covert operations, including bombing, foreign languages and familiarization with "capitalist" culture.

21. For a month beginning August 15, 1984, they traveled to Vienna, Copenhagen, Frankfurt, Geneva and Paris to become familiar with foreign countries.

22. After their European tour, Kim Hyon-hui went to Macao alone via Hong Kong and stayed in Room 122 of the Hotel Estoril to wait for further instructions from Pyongyang (see photograph 17).[9]

23. Kim Sung-il, meanwhile, disguised himself as a Japanese named Hachiya Shinichi and came to Seoul on September 21, 1984, where he stayed at the President Hotel in Seoul for six days until September 26. He then went to Macao on September 28 to meet with Kim Hyon-hui, and they returned together to Pyongyang on October 2 via Beijing. (See photograph 15.)[9]

24. Kim Hyon-hui, on returning to Pyongyang, underwent further training in Japanese and Chinese for six months from January to June 1985. Thereafter, she was sent to Canton, China, and to Macao for a year and a half to become familiar with languages and customs there. (See photograph 18.)[9]

25. Kim Hyon-hui was thus trained for seven years and eight months in all as a North Korean secret operative posing as a foreigner.

V. Order to bomb the airliner

26. The bombing of Korean Air Flight 858 was carried out under the personal instructions of Kim Jong-il, heir apparent of Kim Il-sung, which were delivered to Kim Sung-il and Kim Hyon-hui by the chief of the Intelligence Department of the Central Committee of the North Korean Workers Party, on October 7, 1987. The gist of Kim Jong-il's order was as follows:

—The Party has decided to bomb a Korean Air airliner with the aim of bringing to an end South Korea's attempts to perpetuate the division of the fatherland and also to host the 1988 Olympics by itself;

—This project, to be carried out at this critical juncture, will deal the South Korean puppet régime a fatal blow, by discouraging many countries from participating in the Seoul Olympics;

—This project must be accomplished without fail and must be kept absolutely secret.

27. Upon receiving the orders, the two operatives received further training in explosive handling for one month from October 7 to November 10 at a "guest house" at Tongbuk-ri, Pyongyang. They were given specific instructions to:

—Travel with Section Chief Choe of the Intelligence Department of the North Korean Workers Party, from Pyongyang to Belgrade via Moscow, Budapest and Vienna;

—Receive explosives from Choe in Belgrade;

—Board a Korean Air airliner to depart from Baghdad for Seoul, place the time bomb disguised as a radio, and liquid explosives concealed in a liquor bottle, in the aircraft and disembark at the Abu Dhabi Airport;

—Then, fly back to Vienna, join Choe there, and return to Pyongyang.

28. In addition, Kim Hyon-hui was separately instructed to:

—Prepare and set the bomb herself in case Kim Sung-il, the team leader, were unable to do so for some unexpected reason;

—Pretend to be a Japanese and the daughter of Kim Sung-il, traveling with him on a foreign sightseeing tour, in order to conceal their real identity, and also take care of the operation funds;

—Chew the filter tip of a cigarette concealing a poison ampoule to kill herself, if captured, in order to hide the involvement of Kim Jong-il in the case.

29. On November 10, 1987, two days before their departure from Pyongyang, the chief of the Intelligence Department of the North Korean Workers Party emphasized to the two operatives that their order had been given by the leader Kim Jong-il himself. The Department chief then read out the final instruction to bomb Korean Air Flight 858 that would leave Baghdad for Seoul at 11:30 p.m. on November 28, 1987.

VI. Undertaking the mission

30. At 6:00 a.m. on November 12, 1987, two days after they received the final order to bomb Korean Air Flight 858, Kim Hyon-hui read the following oath in front of a picture of Kim Jong-il in the lounge of a "guest house":

> At this juncture, when the whole nation is involved in the grand construction of socialism in the fatherland, the revolution in the South is at a critical stage. The enemies' attempt to perpetuate the division of the fatherland is becoming increasingly vicious. I, having been assigned to a combat mission within the heart of the enemy territory, will keep in mind the Party's trust put in myself, will abide by the Three Revolutionary Codes (for organization, mission and life) and will faithfully carry out my mission in close cooperation with my partner. I will protect, even with my life, the lofty reputation and prestige of the beloved leader.

31. After the oath-taking, Kim Hyon-hui received a North Korean passport in the name of Kim Ok-hwa. She left Sunan Airport in Pyongyang with Kim Sung-il, the team leader, under the guidance of Section Chief Choe and Guidance Officer Choe of the Intelligence Department of the North Korean Workers Party. The party arrived in Budapest, via Moscow, on November 13, 1987. (See photograph 11.)[9]

32. On November 18, 1987, after a six-day stay at a secret location in Budapest prepared by the North Korean Embassy, Kim Hyon-hui and Kim Sung-il went to Vienna by an Embassy car. On the way, they changed their North Korean passports for forged Japanese passports. In Vienna, they stayed at the Amparkring Hotel, Room 603, for five days. (See photographs 10 & 19.)[9]

33. On November 19, Kim Sung-il bought airline tickets at an Austrian Airlines office in Vienna for passage to Vienna, Belgrade, Baghdad, Abu Dhabi and Bahrain.

34. The following day, the two purchased another set of tickets on Alitalia Air Lines for Abu Dhabi-Amman-Rome.

35. They left Vienna on Austrian Airlines around 2:25 p.m. on November 23, 1987 (local time) and arrived at Belgrade around 3:30 p.m. the same day and checked into the Metropolitan Hotel, Room 811. On November 26, they bought tickets for Rome-Vienna on Austrian Airlines so that they could join the Choes, their superiors from Pyongyang, after completing their assignment. (See photograph 16.)[9]

36. Around 7:00 p.m. on November 27, Kim Hyon-hui and Kim Sung-il received a time bomb disguised as a Japanese-made Panasonic radio and a liquid explosive concealed in a liquor bottle from Section Chief Choe, who had come to Belgrade from Vienna by train. (See photograph 6.)[9]

37. As planned, they left Belgrade on November 28 and arrived at Baghdad at 8:30 p.m. (local time). They waited in the transit lounge of Baghdad Airport for three hours to transfer to Korean Air Flight 858 bound for Abu Dhabi. At around 11:05 p.m. (local time), about 20 minutes prior to the departure of the ill-fated KAL 858, they set the time bomb to explode in nine hours. They boarded the plane and put the time bomb and the bottle with a liquid explosive in the overhead luggage compartment above their seats, 7B and 7C.

38. At 2:44 a.m., November 29 (local time), they got off the plane at Abu Dhabi Airport, a stop-over on the flight, after leaving the bomb on the plane. Nine hours later, the bomb exploded, as the plane was flying over the Andaman Sea off the coast of Burma. All 115 people on board the plane were killed.

DOCUMENT S/19489

Letter dated 10 February 1988 from the representative of Japan to the President of the Security Council

[Original: English]
[10 February 1988]

Under instructions from my Government, I have the honour to request that an urgent meeting of the Security Council be convened to consider the destruction on 29 November 1987 of the Korean Airlines passenger aircraft, flight 858, which claimed 115 victims.

(*Signed*) Hideo KAGAMI
Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19490*

Letter dated 10 February 1988 from the Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People to the Secretary-General

[Original: French]
[10 February 1988]

In my capacity as Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, I wish to express the most serious concern at the increasing use of violence and acts of extreme intimidation by the Government of Israel against the entire Palestinian population in the occupied Palestinian territories. Events since my letter of 20 January 1988 [*S/19441*] have shown that, despite international appeals, Israeli authorities have increasingly resorted to collective punishment, such as random beatings, curfews, the closing of schools and mass arrests. Live ammunition is also again being used against Palestinian demonstrators, raising the death toll to at least 50 since last December. The Committee is also gravely concerned at the reported growing involvement of Israeli settlers in acts of violence against the Palestinian population.

On 27 January Reuters reported that at least 300 Palestinians had been hospitalized for injuries inflicted in beatings by Israeli troops carrying out the policy announced by the Defence Minister of "Might, force and beatings". Several hundreds of others were also beaten but according to *Ha'aretz* avoided going to hospitals for fear of being arrested.

Reuters reported on 27 January that, since 9 December 1987, Israel had placed 129 Palestinians in administrative detention for six months without trial and a further 1,753 Palestinians were still under arrest, including 577 who have been sentenced to jail term by military courts.

On 1 February UPI reported that Israeli soldiers shot and killed two Palestinians during demonstrations in Anata, north of Tulkarm, and 13 others were injured by firepower. Two days later, a woman from Anata died from a shotgun wound during the demonstration. A day earlier it was reported that 10 Palestinians in Nablus and 50 others in Shufah near Jerusalem were injured by gunfire. Nablus was placed under curfew for several days.

The New York Times reported on 8 February that a day earlier Israeli soliders firing into a stone-throwing crowd had killed three Palestinians in the village of Beit Umar, south of Bethlehem. A 15-year-old boy from the Gaza Strip died after soldiers reportedly clubbed him on the head, and a 10-year-old died overnight of gunshot wounds suffered two days earlier. The newspaper reported also that the toll of killed and wounded on 7 February was the highest in two months of protest, with dozens of Palestinians treated in hospitals for gunshot wounds or severe beatings.

Reuters reported on 8 February that a Palestinian man from Kafr Qaddum near Nablus was killed that day after being shot in the head. It was also reported that, according to a senior official of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, on 7 February troops took a 15-year-old boy from his home in Bureij refugee camp and beat him. His body was found at midnight and buried early on Monday. According to Reuters, the killing raised to 50 the number of Palestinians killed by Israeli troops in the two months since the uprising began.

In view of the gravity of the incidents described above, the Committee wishes to reaffirm once again the applicability of the Fourth Geneva Convention of 12 August 1949[1] to the occupied Palestinian territories and to appeal to all concerned to do their utmost to ensure the safety and protection of the Palestinian people under occupation. In this

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/132-S/19490.

regard, the Committee wishes to express its appreciation for the report submitted by you in accordance with Security Council resolution 605 (1987) [*S/19443*] and for its objective analysis of the situation and the identification of ways and means for ensuring the safety and protection of Palestinian civilians under Israeli occupation. The Committee also expresses its appreciation for the steps you have taken in pursuance of resolution 605 (1987) and the action you plan to take to help alleviate the suffering of the Palestinian people under occupation. However, the international community should also take suitable action, including the measures identified in your report to the Council, to help ensure the protection of the Palestinian civilian population.

Further, the Committee wishes to reiterate its view that, as long as the Palestinian people is prevented from exercising its inalienable rights in accordance with internationally recognized principles and United Nations resolutions, a comprehensive, just and lasting peace will not be achieved in the region. The Committee remains convinced that positive action by the Security Council on its recommendations and on the International Peace Conference on the Middle East in accordance with General Assembly resolution 38/58 C, would advance prospects for a just and lasting settlement of the Palestine question, and it reiterates its appeal for the intensification of efforts by all concerned to promote such a settlement.

I should be grateful if this letter could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Massamba SARRÉ
Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People

DOCUMENT S/19491

Letter dated 8 February 1988 from the representative of India to the President of the Security Council

[*Original: English*]
[*10 February 1988*]

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit the text of a statement made by the official spokesman of the Government of India on the evening of 6 February 1988 on the situation in the occupied Arab territories.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have this letter and the attached text circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) C. R. GHAREKHAN
Permanent Representative of India to the United Nations

ANNEX

Text of a statement made by the official spokesman of the Government of India on 6 February 1988

The PLO Ambassador, Mr. Khalid El Sheikh, called on the Prime Minister this evening to apprise him of the heroic resistance of unarmed Palestinians in the occupied territories in the face of brutal acts of repression being perpetrated by the Israeli authorities. A group of Heads of Missions of countries members of the Organization of the Islamic Conference also called on the Prime Minister to inform him of the plight of Palestinians. These calls on the Prime Minister were both in his capacity as head of Government and the President of the Congress (I) Party.

The Prime Minister strongly condemned the Israeli atrocities and reiterated the unequivocal support of the Government and people of India for the just Palestinian cause. He added that at a time when world public opinion was incensed at the senseless violence against Palestinians in Israeli bondage, concerted efforts should be made at the United Nations, the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and other forums to seek a just and durable Palestinian settlement. This should be done through the early convening of an international conference under the auspices of the United Nations with the participation of all parties concerned, including the PLO. India would lend its full support to such a move.

In his capacity as President of the Congress (I) Party, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi informed the PLO Ambassador that his Party would take the traditional lead in organizing a public campaign to collect relief assistance for the Palestinians as an expression of popular Indian support and solidarity with their just cause.

DOCUMENT S/19492

Note by the President of the Security Council

[*Original: English*]
[*10 February 1988*]

The attached letter dated 10 February 1988 from Mr. Pak Gil Yon, Permanent Observer of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations, was addressed to the President of the Security Council. In accordance with the request therein contained, the letter, together with its enclosures, is being circulated as a document of the Security Council.

ANNEX

Letter dated 10 February 1988 from the observer of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to forward to you the statement dated 15 January 1988 of the Korean Central News Agency, the statement dated 25 January

of the spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the "truth of the KAL incident" dated 26 January of the Propaganda Department of the Central Committee of the National Democratic Front of South Korea, in connection with the south Korean passenger airplane incident which took place on 29 November 1987.

I request that this letter, together with the enclosed annexes, be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

ENCLOSURE I

Statement by the Korean Central News Agency

The Korean Central News Agency has been authorized on January 15 1988 to state as follows.

The entire Korean people are now expecting that this year will be a historic year which will provide the opportunity of new change for national reconciliation and unity between the north and the south. The peace-loving people of the world also hope that the tense situation on the Korean peninsula will be eased this year.

Contrary to this desire of all the fellow countrymen and the world people, however, the south Korean rulers are resorting to such an anti-DPRK smear campaign as deliberately aggravating the north-south relations and worsening the confrontation within the nation from the beginning of the new year.

The south Korean puppets made public today the "results of investigation" into the passenger plane incident which took place at the end of November last year and committed such a despicable act as shifting the blame for the "incident" on to us. In the "results of investigation" the puppets described a man named Shinichi and a woman named Mayumi who possessed Japanese passports as "operatives" of the north and announced as if the plane exploded in the air because of their work.

The "results of investigation" are a fabrication full of lies, deception and contradiction.

When the south Korean passenger jetliner incident took place last year, we clearly stated that our Republic had nothing to do with it. When the puppets escorted the woman named Mayumi to Seoul from Bahrain, we gave an advance notice that they would rig up something to carp on us. The "results of investigation" made public belatedly by the puppets are what we warned in advance and what the world people anticipated.

Before advertisement, the puppets changed the names of two Japanese passport carriers into those of Koreans and fabricated their address and careers to discuss them as "operatives" from the north. But in our northern half there are no persons who have such names and careers fabricated and announced by the south Korean puppets.

The puppets clamour about a school career to connect the woman named Mayumi with us at any cost. But she was not in the register of any primary school, middle school and university in Pyongyang which they claimed she attended, and there are no university and training centres where they insisted she received "special training".

Furthermore, the puppets asserted that she is 26 years old and was chosen in February 1980, when she was second year student after going through one year of preparatory course of a university, and received "special training" for seven years and eight months. If that is true, her age must be 28 according to normal school age in our Republic. But the puppets announced that her age is 26. Their assertion is full of incomprehensible contradiction: how her age is counted and when she went to university and received "special training."

In an attempt to make the so-called "investigation results" sound plausible the south Korean puppets are even talking about the name of her father, his age, career and occupation. But there is no diplomat with such name and age and no one with a similar career in the DPRK Mission in Angola.

Lies and fabrications are always incoherent and do not stand to reason.

It is clear to everyone that the facist clique that has cooked all kinds of "incidents" in south Korea and invented a large number of sham offenders forged by all means criminals involved in the explosion of the airliner this time. They took a foreign passport carrier to south Korea without any ground, violating even the international law. It is quite an easy job for them to advertise her as one "hailing from the north" after changing three letters of her name and making up even her career and family relations.

It must not go unnoticed that the south Korean puppets belatedly published the "results" of the "investigation" into the KAL "incident" which took place last year after months long "investigation" into the "incident".

In fact, the probe into the jetliner incident was not a matter requiring many hours. If the puppets themselves frankly admitted the fact that the jetliner incident was their own work for the extension of the military administration and had not used it politically, the incident would have been settled already last year.

But it required many days for the puppet rulers to make a fabrication to cover up their crimes and shift the responsibility for the incident to us, and many more days were needed to invent the so-called "presentation of a bouquet" 16 years ago in order to make the woman "criminal" of north origin.

While the south Korean puppets linked the woman called Mayumi with us and made her public as the criminal of the aerial explosion of the passenger plane, they produced no material evidence. This proves that the "results of investigation" are a fabrication. From the viewpoint of criminal investigation, it is a matter of common sense that no incident can be recognized with only the statement of a suspect, without material evidence. Without material evidence which confirms the statement of a suspect, if a sham criminal makes a false statement, its authenticity cannot be confirmed.

Therefore, if the aerial explosion of the south Korean passenger plane is to be clarified, first of all, there should be its remains as a material evidence and they should be verified. But, the south Korean puppets could not produce a single piece of material evidence in their "results of investigation".

Remains of the plane and lifesaving boat, emergency food and emergency medicines, etc. advertised by the puppets as floating matters have no plausibility.

If the passenger plane exploded in the sky above the Andaman Sea and its remains fell down to the sea, where is the "black box" which is said to withstand a temperature of 1,000 degrees C. and a shock 1,000 times normal gravitation and operate only in the sea, and how can only the abovesaid matters float?

Moreover, the puppets announced that as soon as the passenger plane incident occurred, they dispatched an "on-the-spot investigation team" to make a "search operation" by a plane on the Andaman Sea where a Burmese freight vessel sailed. How can remains which were not seen by them suddenly be found by a cargo ship of another country 5 days after the puppets finished their search? This insinuates doubt whether the lifesaving boat, emergency food and medicines etc. called remains of the plane were really those the south Korean puppets carried from Seoul and scattered on the sea.

The Karen tribe in the border area of Burma seized the body of the plane and dead bodies and belongings of passengers and proposed a negotiation on them. This fact more clearly proves that remains put by the puppets as only evidence are not real things but sham "remains" they themselves scattered.

The puppets claim that "criminals" deplaned, leaving a transistor radio planted with a time bomb and a bottle with liquid explosive to cause an aerial explosion of the plane on its rack. This is nonsense which does not hold water.

In December last year, the south Korean puppets reported that the couple with Japanese passports were shadowed and watched all the time from Vienna, Austria, to Abu Dhabi via Baghdad. The watchers, therefore, could never fail to see the two alighting from the plane after shelving a transistor radio and a wine bottle, which are not small things. It is quite unimaginable and impossible that even if they left their luggage in the plane before their disembarkation more than 20 agents of the "security planning board" aboard the plane and its crewmen could not discover them for nine hours before its explosion.

The south Korean puppets stood Mayumi before reporters to give "plausibility" to the announcement of the "results of investigation" lacking any material evidence only to show how basely they have fabricated the incident.

The woman who they claimed was hailing from the north was made to read the paper written by the puppet investigation officer, uttering "tibi" (T.V.), "sokjoe" (atonement) and "yakjubyong" (rice wine bottle) which are used by south Koreans only, not by people in the northern half of the country. Although she was escorted to Seoul with a gag in her mouth, she was given the chance to go sightseeing freely in a car like a tourist and asked to give impressions of the "presidential elections" which she did not see either.

This brought the truth of their drama into bolder relief.

All facts show that the "investigation results" of the south Korean rulers are a fabrication for the anti-DPRK smear campaign and the KAL incident is no more than a drama written and enacted by the puppets themselves.

We solemnly declare once again that our Republic has nothing to do with the KAL incident and strongly denounce in the name of the entire Korean people the treacherous criminal acts of the puppets to shift the responsibility for the incident onto us.

Clear is the aim sought by the south Korean rulers in launching the anti-DPRK smear campaign, linking the KAL incident with us from the beginning of the new year without any scientific ground. It proceeds from their intention to ward off the influence of our Republic's new proposal for peace negotiation, as they are much upset by it, and divert elsewhere the people's attention.

As already known, we, out of the desire to make this year a year when an opportunity of a new turn will be provided for national reconciliation and unity, put forward a proposal for the convocation of a historical north-south joint conference and proposed to the south Korean authorities, political parties, public organizations and personages of all social standings to seek jointly a way for removing antagonism and confrontation between the north and the south and easing tension.

Our proposal is now evoking great sympathy not only among the people in the northern half of the Republic but also among the broad segments of fellow countrymen in south Korea and abroad. It enjoys warm welcome from the world's peace-loving people.

In particular, the south Korean students and people of all walks of life, apprehensive of the future of peace and peaceful reunification after the "elections" held in south Korea last year resulted in the extension of the military dictatorship contrary to the people's will, show a new trend to launch more dynamically a grand nation-wide march for independence, democracy and reunification with hope and expectation for our proposal calling for the convocation of a north-south joint conference. Such a trend in the situation poses a great threat to the south Korean rulers in immediate "transfer of power" and "elections to the national assembly" and, furthermore, the single-handed hosting of the Olympic Games.

The south Korean rulers made public the "investigation results" of the KAL incident, synchronizing with the fact that we sent a letter proposing the convocation of a north-south joint conference to the south Korean authorities, political parties, public organizations and personages of various segments this time. This shows that their anti-DPRK intrigue is a very premeditated and intentional, purposeful one. They try to use the KAL incident in preventing the influence of our proposal for a north-south joint conference upon south Korea just like they used it in the fabricated "victory in the presidential elections" last year.

By timing the publication of "investigation results" to coincide with our proposal for a north-south joint conference, the south Korean authorities speak for themselves that they have no intention to have dialogue with us and promote reconciliation and unity, but seek only confrontation and aggravation of tensions.

The south Korean rulers are raising a hue and cry with such anti-communist campaigns as "statement" and "urgent emergency military affairs meeting", along with the publication of the "results of investigation". Regarding these rows as serious ones, we cannot but consider them to be a confrontation declaration negating dialogue, reconciliation and peace.

The Chun Doo Hwan-Roh Tae Woo military facist clique must be clearly aware that they can get nothing from such futile anti-DPRK smear campaign. The KAL incident will not become a way out for the puppets on the way of destruction.

We strongly hold that the south Korean provokers, though belated, must frankly admit that the KAL incident was a drama stage-managed by themselves, immediately stop hurling abuses and slanders against us and apologize without delay for their reckless acts to impair the international prestige of our Republic.

The south Korean people should correctly see the truth of the KAL incident and resolutely oppose and reject the puppet rulers' treacherous smear campaign checking the national desire for reconciliation and unity.

Availing themselves of this opportunity, we express the expectation that the world's progressive peoples, governments, political parties, organizations of all countries that love justice and peace and international organizations should pay attention to the criminal purpose of the south Korean authorities' anti-DPRK intrigue concerning the KAL incident and lift up louder voices denouncing it.

We will watch with vigilance the rash and thoughtless act of the south Korean military fascist clique and answer the provocation of the enemy with a decisive retaliation.

If the south Korean rulers go on with the anti-DPRK smear campaign in spite of our warnings, they will be held fully responsible for all the consequences arising therefrom.

ENCLOSURE II

Statement of 25 January 1988 of the spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

The United States on January 21 announced "sanctions" against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, charging it with the KAL incident.

Talking about "terrorist State," "restriction of visits" and "cancellation of the lifting of the ban on contacts," the United States attempted to insult and impair the sovereignty and dignity of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

This is a despicable act to justify the south Korean puppets' "investigation results" doubted by the world people, encourage their anti-DPRK smear campaign and mislead the world public opinion.

As we have already stated, the KAL incident has nothing to do with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. It is a drama staged by the south Korean puppets themselves, and their "results of investigation" are full of lies, tricks and contradictions.

As soon as the puppets announced in Seoul the "results of investigation", the United States blew the flute in Washington in the same tune with the puppets. By doing so, the United States revealed by itself that it is the wirepuller of the KAL incident.

It is an open secret that the United States worked out a "scenario of warfare against north Korea" and already staged a mock exercise. The keynote of the scenario is that the plane carrying the south Korean puppet foreign minister on his visit to Japan will be exploded in the sky above the East Sea of Korea in May this year on the threshold of the Seoul Olympics, and a military retaliation will be made against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea under that pretext.

This scenario was staged by the south Korean military dictators in another theatre earlier than scheduled as a shocking remedy for the extension of the military rule. Hence, the KAL incident in the Middle East in November last year.

Historically speaking, the United States has worked out a false incident and launched a campaign against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea each time its colonial rule in south Korea faced a crisis.

In August 1973, when the fascist "Yusin system" of south Korea was faced with strong protests of the masses and louder voices denouncing the "two Koreas" policy were ringing out, they, hand in glove with the puppets, fabricated the "Kim Dae Jung kidnap case" and laid the blame for it at the door of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

In August 1974, when the "Yusin system" was shaking to its very bottom by massive actions of the south Korean students and people, they wirepulled the puppets, who faked the "shooting of Pak Jung Hi" and announced it as a "criminal act of a north's operative".

It is a widely known fact that when their colonial rule was landed in the worst crisis by the Kwangju popular uprising in May 1980, they spread false rumours that the uprising was instigated by a "north's spy", and in November 1986, when the south Korean people's anti-United States, anti-fascist struggle gained momentum, they invented a cock-and-bull story about "abnormal situation in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea" ("shooting incident") with the aim of defusing their crisis.

The United States imperialists and the military fascist clique this time fabricated the jetliner incident and linked it with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. This was one more habitual fake-up meant to overpower the opposition parties and opposition democratic forces in the "presidential elections" on the pretext of "security" and extend the military dictatorship.

The United States, which should be held responsible for the KAL incident that claimed the lives of our countrymen as an accomplice in it, is now talking about "sanctions" against others like a thief crying "stop thief!" This is, indeed, a robber's logic reversing black into white.

Considering such shameless behavior of the United States a grave provocation designed to besmirch the international authority of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and push the situation on the Korean peninsula to an extreme pitch of strain, and considering it also a brutal act challenging human conscience and civilization, we vehemently denounce it in the name of the entire Korean people.

As for the "terrorist State" mentioned by the United States, it is exactly the United States itself, not the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. The United States is the world's No. 1 terrorist State which engages itself in state terrorism in all parts of the world, the ringleader of aggression whose mode of existence is open armed intervention, sinister intrigues and subversive activities against other countries.

The United States was under fire by the world people for the fact that it stifled by force of arms newly emerging Grenada and Dominica advancing

along the road of independence and sovereignty, threatened anti-imperialist and independent Libya with an undeclared attack of armed forces and made a surprise commando attack on Iranian territory. How dares the United States brand another as a "terrorist State"? How dares the United States clamour about "sanctions" against others while assassinating state leaders and overthrowing legitimate governments by means of plots in Central and South America, Asia and Africa and playing the most vicious and malicious "international gendarme"?

The United States has recorded the most disgraceful criminal history in our land of Korea. The United States imperialists who have invaded Korea for centuries have occupied one half of our land for over 40 years and committed terrorism, destruction and murder and imposed immeasurable misfortunes and disasters upon our nation.

Enforcing a military rule from the very day of their occupation of south Korea, the United States imperialist aggressors murdered a large number of our patriots and people wherever they went, including Cheju Island, Taegu, Ryosu and Sunchon. Is it necessary to prove that the United States manipulated behind the scene the Kwangju massacre still fresh in the memory of the south Korean people as a rancour?

It is ridiculous, indeed, for the United States imperialists, the mastermind of aggression, terrorism and intrigue, to cry for the so-called "sanction" against our Republic, the victim. None of us exposed to the permanent aggression by the United States imperialists is frightened by their hasty "sanctions". We who have lived our own way have never benefited by the United States nor have anything to benefit by it.

Of course, we consider that relations between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the United States should be improved for the peaceful settlement of the Korean question, but we have no intention to beg it of the United States.

When the United States did not exist in the world our nation lived well for thousands of years. Today, however, the existence of the aggressive United States becomes the root cause of the misfortunes and sufferings of our nation. Our Republic can do without the United States. Without the United States, our nation will live in peace in a reunified country.

It should be made clear between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the United States who should take sanctions against whom. From the historical point of view and in view of the recent KAL incident, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has suffered because of the United States and has the right to take even severer steps than sanctions against the United States. Branding the United States before the world as the ringleader of international terrorism and the brigandish aggressor on Korea, we suggest that the governments and people of all countries bring the United States to international tribunal.

As a countermeasure to the United States "sanctions", from February 1, 1988 we will not contact any United States diplomats in the international arena, will not permit people with the United States nationality to enter our country and will not have any negotiation concerning the remains of Americans.

Now that the United States imperialists and the south Korean puppets continuously claim that we might make "provocation" with large armed forces to obstruct the Olympic Games, no one can foretell what kind of incident they would invent again in the future.

We demand that the United States immediately stop such rash acts as aggravating the north-south confrontation and tension on the Korean peninsula and mocking the conscience of the world by resorting to foolish and despicable intrigues together with the south Korean puppets.

Before clamouring about "sanctions" against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the United States must withdraw from south Korea, along with its nuclear weapons and aggression forces and take hands off Korea.

If the United States wants to get anything from its acts to injure the sovereignty and dignity of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and continuously aggravate the situation on the Korean peninsula, it will get nothing but stern retaliation and destruction.

The Japanese authorities who are acting imprudently in line with the United States must look straight at the situation, act with discretion and renounce their hostile policy toward the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. They must clearly realize that the anti-Democratic People's Republic of Korea, anti-Chongryon campaign will bring nothing good to them.

We express the hope that the Governments and peoples of all countries that cherish peace and justice will bitterly denounce the criminal acts of the United States and the south Korean puppets and continue to express firm solidarity with the Korean people in the just cause of peace and peaceful reunification of the country.

ENCLOSURE III

The truth of the KAL incident

After the January 15 "investigation results" on the KAL incident, the security planning board of south Korea is engaged in an unprecedented anti-communism smear campaign.

However, the "investigation results" on the KAL incident which took the lives of 115 innocent workers and the crew members is a complete concoction and full of lies made by the south Korean ruling circles themselves.

The Propaganda Department of the Central Committee of the National Democratic Front of South Korea (Hanminjon) brands the KAL incident as a self-made drama by the gang of Chon Doo Hwan-Roh Tae Woo and discloses its true colours on the basis of the reliable information obtained by Hanminjon.

The KAL incident occurred on the 29th of November 1987, but its background goes far back into the past.

Like all the abnormal incidents, the KAL incident also was an outcome of the insecure political situation within south Korea.

The "movement for the constitutional reform" which was prolonged from the previous year was further expanded into the more powerful anti-"government" struggle because of the torture-killing case of Pak Jong Chol that was revealed early in January last year. Driven into the corner, the ruling circles hoped much from the "April 13 important decision", but it only became the catalyst that caused the eruption of resistance by all social standings, and the situation at last developed fast into the explosion of the June popular uprising.

Being aware of the difficulty of saving the situation by resorting to physical strength, the ruling circles put out the "June 29 Roh Tae Woo declaration" which was carefully calculated under Washington's manipulations, but it also has brought about the result of exciting the hot air for democratization of the majority people and accelerating the reunification spirit.

Amidst the unprecedented democratic labour movement continued for three months, the first ever in the history of the south Korean labour movement, there was sharp confrontation between the "theory of combination of the movement for democratization with the movement for reunification" and the "theory of unity of popular masses" which aroused highly among the people the pro-communist spirit for national reunification as the days go by.

By this time, within the ruling circles of south Korea they were very much eager to find a way to save situation, but failed to find any admirable ingenuous designs yet.

It was one day in August last year. Roh Tae Woo called his cronies to the place of "X Poo" and told them that some kind of emergency measures must be taken so as to carry out the forthcoming December "presidential elections" without fail and to guarantee the two grand celebrations of both the Olympics and "government transfer" next year.

The scenario of KAL incident was devised with this background.

"Plan Memo-1"

During the confab of that day of August, one of Roh's cronies who had grasped his intention responded promptly by giving strict orders to the headquarters of the "Democratic Justice Party" to take an emergency measure.

The plans worked out by the headquarters of the "Democratic Justice Party" after several days of confabs and discussions were as follows. First: take it as a No. 1 plan to reverse the current situation with the use of a new "second declaration of Roh Tae Woo" as was last time when they cooled down the June uprising with the use of "June 29 declaration on democracy" which was "No. 1 declaration of Roh Tae Woo". Secondly: take it as a No. 2 plan to use a new "shocking remedy" which can suddenly turn the public opinion.

In a word, the "declaration of Roh Tae Woo" was designed to allure the popular support by giving up the "peaceful unification plan" and by arousing the nation's reunification aspiration. The new "shocking remedy" was designed to devise an attempted shooting incident of Roh Tae Woo or a blasting incident of the main stadiums for the 88 Olympiad so as to blame it on the "acts of the north".

This plan was immediately presented to Roh Tae Woo. After consultation with his cronies on these two plans, Roh Tae Woo got permission from Chon Doo Hwan. The Plan No. 1 was reserved. And the Plan No. 2 was modified and completed into new details. Such plan was originated from the calculation that the control measure of giving a shock to the

nation's mentality with the security matter is much more effective than a policy statement on the reunification question in reversing the atmosphere of "election".

The reasons for the modification of the Plan No. 2 lay in the fact that the possibility to prove the evidence to link it with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is small in the light of the blasting incident at Kim Po Airport in 1986 and that its influence at home and abroad would not be great.

It was because of this that Roh Tae Woo's cronies decided to move the theatre to another country where the infinite effectiveness is possible to win the public opinion and favourable to fabricate an incident in order to modify the plan anew.

What was the model of the idea herein was the United States "scenario of warfare against north Korea" which staged the exercise on map on July last year. The scenario of the mock exercise of the map was participated in by the high-ranking officials of south Korea, high-ranking United States generals and the United States Commander in south Korea, Chon Doo Hwan and Roh Tae Woo. This scenario was to save the situation by igniting a partial war along the truce line, simulating there a created crisis in south Korea with the 88 Olympics ahead.

In other words, it was planned that they would explode the plane carrying the south Korean Foreign Minister on his visit to Japan in the sky above the East Sea of Korea in May this year and inflict an "instant retaliation" upon the north by denouncing it as an "act of the north".

This became an idea of the KAL incident scenario.

In order to concretize this idea agreed upon between Chon Doo Hwan and Roh Tae Woo, a special planning and operation team was organized with the confidents of Roh Tae Woo belonging to the security planning board and public security command. This was a confidential team directly under the control of Roh Tae Woo.

This team was composed as a special team and was not included in either the security planning board or the public security command. It is related to the fact that the team should be kept secret and Roh Tae Woo has limited administrative power, for he is still the president of the "Democratic Justice Party."

The planning team made it a "Plan Memo-1" following this "idea".

According to the information the Hanminjon received, the "Plan Memo-1" records that an international passenger plane would be exploded by the "north's spy" and gives the following detailed operational guidelines.

Following is its keynote:

Date: Mid-November

Air route: Singapore–Seoul

Object: KAL

Besides, "Plan Memo-1" records operational guidelines and action tactics such as the composition of operation team for the explosion of a passenger plane with "R-08" as its operation officer and covering team, ensuring conditions and ways of evacuation. And it also details information principle and afterward counter-measures such as dissemination of the alleged crime committed by the north through mass media after the explosion of the passenger plane.

Note is also added hereto that if this operation succeeds it will change at a stroke the unfavourable phase of "election" and bring the effect of killing two birds with one stone to the political situation.

"Plan Memo-2"

To select the "explosion criminal" of a passenger plane was the most difficult problem in translating "Plan Memo-1" into practice. It is because its real criminal should be the agents of the security planning board but its false criminal be persons who can be connected with the north.

In order to look for a false criminal the operation team gave an immediate order to its overseas agents of the security planning board to select and secure immediately some objects who are possible to be "connected with the north" among the black-listed foreigners put on the south Korean intelligency agency and on a visit to alien countries.

The following message dated November 19 last year from Vienna is one of the replies from the overseas agents: "We grasped father and daughter who are possessed of Japanese passports. Hachiya Shinichi, male, 69, is identified as a 'P' who has been to south Korea on five occasions since 1984. Hachiya Mayumi, female, 27, is not identified. They booked on November 19 the Manama airliner to depart on 23 from Vienna for the destination, Mmnma via Boegrad-Baghdad-Abu Dhabi (29th)."

The operation team examined and analyzed this message and admitted that the selection of the above-mentioned persons as the "explosion criminals" of the passenger plane is most advisable.

As for "Hachiya Shinichi", he is a person under the surveillance of the south Korean authorities concerned for his violated acts of smuggling while visiting south Korea.

The selection of these two persons as the "criminal" was attributable to the conclusion that they possess the Japanese passports and travel the routes where there are north Korean embassies and comparatively many north Korean travellers and, therefore, it would not be unreasonable if they concoct the public opinion that they are the enemy forces and terrorists who had penetrated into the KAL on the "order from the north".

In pursuance of this conclusion the operation team modified, supplemented and perfected the original plan to use the Singapore-Seoul international air route and immediately worked out the "Plan Memo-2" to decisively effect by making use of the travel courses and dates and time of "Shinichi" and "Mayumi".

"Date and time: November 29

"Route: Baghdad-Abu Dhabi-Bangkok-Seoul

"Object: the 'Plan Memo-2' which was renamed as the south Korean airline 'Flight No. 858' explains that the agent who will explode the passenger plane is called 'H-107' dispatched as a crew of the plane, and the reason why the object airliner was renamed as the KAL 'Flight No. 858'.

"The KAL 858 operated since 1971 was the worn-out plane with two belly landings by accident and was already ensured for up to 50 million US dollars. This 'Plan Memo-2' was secretly chosen as the final operation memo of the KAL incident this time and this operation was named 'K-87 Operation'."

"K-87 Operation"

The curtain of the KAL incident has been raised at last.

Over the consecutive wireless from Seoul, the order was given to an agent in Vienna to accompany and follow the object to Baghdad and hand over them. Meanwhile the agent in Bahrain was ordered to follow them immediately after the objects arrive in Bahrain and establish contact in the hotel. And the order was given to the agent in Abu Dhabi to deplane 11 persons of the Foreign Ministry along with the objects in Abu Dhabi.

This emergency instruction was executed as ordered.

Deplaned at the Abu Dhabi Airport were those two objects, father and daughter, and 9 shift crewmen and 11 officials of the Foreign Ministry including Bak Gee Ryong, purser of the airplane No. 858. Remaining on the plane were mainly south Korean construction employees who had been dispatched to the Middle East.

Among these deplaned in the airport, there was also "H-107", a secret agent from the security planning board who had installed the explosive materials in the plane.

Thus the KAL plane, loaded with some 100 workers, was exploded as scheduled in Burmese airspace around 2 p.m. on November 29, by the blasting materials installed by the security planning board agent.

"Shinichi" and "Mayumi" who had nothing to do with this incident and who were unaware of this fact changed into "Karuhu" airplane in Abu Dhabi Airport and unpacked their luggage in Regency Hotel in Manama, capital of Bahrain.

Kim Jong Gee, Second Secretary of the south Korean Embassy in Bahrain and the agent dispatched by the security planning board who had followed "Shinichi" and "Mayumi", sent a telegram to the Seoul head office on their arrival.

Meanwhile in Seoul, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of south Korea officially requested to the counterpart of Japan the identification of these two persons for the sake of formality.

Even before receiving the confirmation of their identification from the Japanese authorities, Kim Jong Gee, on order from the head office, went in the evening of the 30th to the Regency Hotel to confirm their identification without notifying the Bahrain authorities. It was to shock the objects and make them move so as to bring them under suspicion on being involved in the KAL incident.

As expected by the south Korean planers, "Shinichi" and "Mayumi" hurried out to the airport to fly to Rome the next day on December 1, by changing their three-day itinerary, startled by Kim Jong Gee's unexpected visit to the hotel and identification.

The south Korean secret agents, who were hurriedly dispatched to Manama and kept an eye on "Shinichi" and his party, stealthily changed just before their departure from the hotel "Shinichi's" cigarette case for the case containing the poisonous drug they had carried from Seoul.

Upon their arrival at the airport, the Japanese Embassy, at the request of the south Korean Embassy, asked the Manama police for the control of the

bearers of their country's passports. As was previously found by the Japanese authority concerned, the passports of these two persons—father and daughter—were shams.

"Shinichi", being controlled, smoked before dying the cigarettes stealthily given by the South Korean secret agents, anxious about his criminal record of forged passports and smuggling. "Shinichi" did not commit suicide as was reported by the south Korean mass communication but was poisoned by the south Korean secret agents.

They poisoned "Shinichi" alone and kept "Mayumi" alive because keeping alive one person among the two is favourable in branding them as the "criminals" on the KAL incident. Shocked at the sudden death of "Shinichi", "Mayumi" fell down on the ground. She fainted. The fainting of "Mayumi" was immediately reported in distortion as an attempt at suicide. As "Mayumi" had not got the poison cigarette she could not attempt suicide.

The seamy side of the "extradition"

The operation was successfully carried out as planned. The remaining work was to make both "Shinichi" and "Mayumi" the criminals who exploded the plane. But the problem was that "Mayumi", who had been under detention and investigation by the Bahrain authorities, exercised the right to keep silent, being afraid of disclosure of her previous smugglings.

The operation team of the security planning board originally arranged even the plan to effect the forced extradition, in anticipation of the situation where the Bahrain authorities could not brand "Mayumi" as the criminal of the airplane explosion as she has no connection with this incident.

But unexpectedly the matter of "extradition" was getting difficult under the international law.

According to international law and customs, the priority right to investigate the criminal of another country is given to the country that arrested the criminal, and then to the country of the criminal and the damaged country.

If south Korea extradited "Mayumi", as the damaged party concerned, they should have at least the wreck of the airplane whereby the explosion in the air could be proved, and "Mayumi" herself should admit the criminal act of the explosion with the material evidence to confirm it.

However, "Mayumi" was consistently using the right to keep silent and her nationality and her social position were not clarified and even the wreck of the airplane was not found at all.

Therefore, the operation team was instructed to have diplomatic negotiation with Bahrain while fabricating the material evidence of this incident. Following this instruction, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Cho Gwang Soo, sent a note requesting cooperation to the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Bahrain, Mubarak Al-Khalifa, and First Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Pak Soo Gil was dispatched in a hurry to the spot, taking with him a lot of money and valuables in the plane for the negotiation with the Bahrain authorities concerned on the "Mayumi" 's extradition. Pak Soo Gil himself confessed that several million US dollars had been spent for the "Mayumi's" extradition.

For the extradition the operation team tried to spread from the outset of this incident the rumour that it was committed by the north while reporting continuously the concocted news that she had the south Korean nationality, she speaks well in Korean; dead "Shinichi" was "Miyamoto" or "Gozumi" or the former Second Secretary of the north Korean Embassy in Malaysia and a Japanese red armyman, a spy of north Korea.

However, no material evidence has been found to confirm "Mayumi" and her companion to be the criminals of the airplane explosion in the air, any traces of having carried the explosive to the plane in their belongings and the wreck of the airplane.

Thus the extradition was not smoothly done. So they fabricated the false "material proof" that they found a trace of having kept the explosive in the buckle of the dead "Shinichi's" belt and conducted an operation to secretly drop forged wrecks of a plane to the waters, where Burmese fishermen could collect them.

This operation had to be done in top secret. If they had carried the forged wrecks in a charter-plane from Seoul, it would have been discovered at the Burmese airport.

Therefore they devised another way, regarding it as the best plan, of withdrawing the on-the-spot-investigation team under the pretext of impossibility of spot-investigation work and later sending again the team under an appropriate pretext in order to scatter the forged wrecks of the KAL loaded on the investigation plane allegedly for investigating the sea waters.

According to it, on December 9 they suddenly withdrew the on-the-spot-investigation team and then dispatched it again at dawn on December 13 after having aired on December 10 the unofficial false report that a US reconnaissance plane over the Andaman Bay, Burma, discovered the remains of the KAL in the sea. At that time they carried the sham remains in the investigation plane to scatter over the sea of Andaman Bay, and a Burmese Cargo vessel immediately found them.

Meanwhile, according to the information leaked from the south Korean authorities concerned, they reportedly asked the Japanese public security authorities for an "advance consent" while planning and executing the KAL explosion incident and requested to make a tacit agreement that "Mayumi" and "Shinichi" are not the Japanese citizens and to refrain from demanding their "extradition".

This is the reason why the Japanese public security authorities officially waive the "extradition" of "Mayumi" while waving the forged information in an attempt to testify to the allegation of Roh Tae Woo that the "crime was committed by the north" as soon as the incident was occurred.

Therefore, the south Korean rulers could not effect the "extradition" of "Mayumi" immediately, and only by bribing and threatening the investigation authorities of the Bahrain [illegible] Affairs Ministry could they carry it out dramatically on the eve of the day of the "presidential elections".

The goal was to win victory in the [illegible]election" by giving psychological shock to the people. The assertion of the alleged "crime by the north" announced by the security planning board through the "results of investigation" of "Mayumi" is a masquerade produced according to the scenario written by "Roh Tae Woo groups" without any credibility.

This is the seamy side of the incident.

The Roh Tae Woo groups who have fabricated the terrible incident killing numerous innocent people for their filthy political purpose will never get rid of the severe punishment of the history and the nation.

Propaganda Department of the Central Committee
of the National Democratic Front of South Korea
Seoul, January 26, 1988

DOCUMENT S/19493*

Letter dated 9 February 1988 from the representative of Paraguay to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Spanish*]
[*11 February 1988*]

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of the statement made by the Government of the Republic of Paraguay concerning the terrorist attack on a Korean Air Lines aircraft on 29 November 1987.

I should be grateful if this note and the attached text could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Alfredo CAÑETE
Permanent Representative of Paraguay
to the United Nations

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/133-S/19493.

ANNEX

Statement by the Government of Paraguay

A serious investigation conducted by the Government of the Republic of Korea has left no room for doubt that the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea was directly involved in the terrorist attack which resulted in the destruction, on 29 November 1987, of a Korean Air Lines passenger aircraft while on a routine flight from Baghdad to Seoul.

All terrorist acts are reprehensible, but this one is particularly deplorable since it is all the more reprehensible when a Government is involved, directly or indirectly, in the perpetration of such an act.

The Government of the Republic of Paraguay energetically condemns this further incident, which like all terrorist acts constitutes a vile attack on the principles of civilized international coexistence, and it deeply regrets the loss of life.

DOCUMENT S/19494*

Letter dated 10 February 1988 from the representative of Afghanistan to the Secretary-General

[Original: English]
[11 February 1988]

I have the honour to transmit to you the text of a statement made by Najibullah, President of the Republic of Afghanistan, on 8 February 1988.

I have further the honour to request the circulation of this statement as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Shah Mohammad DOST
Permanent Representative of Afghanistan to the United Nations

ANNEX

Statement made on 8 February 1988 by Najibullah, President of Afghanistan

It is for several years now that an imposed war and various interferences and interventions, including armed interferences, are being waged against the Republic of Afghanistan which have resulted in great catastrophe and tremendous losses for the country. This has also brought about the situation around Afghanistan and has created a seriously tense situation.

Proceeding from its peace-loving policy, the Government of the Republic of Afghanistan has, from the very beginning, made tremendous efforts aimed at a peaceful, negotiated solution of the problems, by avoiding having to resort to military means which are void of any prospect. On the basis of such a policy and as a result of the good offices of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the process of the Geneva talks between Afghanistan and Pakistan, through the personal representative of the Secretary-General, started in June 1982 and continues till now. It is to be added that, despite the fact that Iran has not directly participated in the Geneva talks, the personal representative of the Secretary-General has regularly kept the Iranian authorities informed of their process.

The Afghan side has always manifested its political good will and necessary flexibility with a goal of ensuring an early political solution of the situation around Afghanistan. All of these efforts are aimed at ensuring peace in Afghanistan in the interest of the stability of the situation in the region.

Since nowadays the process of the Geneva talks is reaching its crucial and final stage, I would like once again to state the position of the Republic of Afghanistan in that respect.

Notwithstanding the continuation and broadening of the dimensions of the imperialist armed interventions against our country, there has been remarkable progress in the process of the Geneva talks as a result of the constructive position adopted by the Afghan side. The Republic of Afghanistan has always appreciated the efforts of the Secretary-General and the mission of his personal representative aimed at successfully conducting the Geneva negotiations.

Moreover, in order to put an end to the war and fratricidal bloodshed and to ensure lasting peace throughout the country, the Government of the Republic of Afghanistan has proclaimed and is successfully implementing the policy of national reconciliation, which has various dimensions in the interests of peace and security and which is a clear manifestation of the power, wisdom and providence of the Republic of Afghanistan. The proclamation of the policy of national reconciliation greatly helped the acceleration of the peaceful solution of the situation around Afghanistan to put forward a concrete proposal on the formation of a coalition government, which included the opposition armed groups and the forces confronting the Afghan State. This proposal was made as one of the dimensions of the efforts for ensuring peace in the country, and its implementation is in progress.

Afghanistan is an independent, sovereign and non-aligned country. It is only Afghans who have determined and continue to determine the destiny of their country. No one other than Afghans can settle the Afghan problems. No one should doubt this indisputable fact.

Those who desire peace in our country cannot but utilize the policy of national reconciliation as a firm base for their peace-seeking activities. Being the real proprietors of their beloved country, the Afghan people are a noble, valorous, free and heroic people. Our people want peace and are striving for the construction and progress of their country. At this important and crucial stage of the development of our country, we have based ourselves politically on the multi-party system and economically on the multi-sectoral and multi-strata basis.

Presently, tremendous hopes and possibilities exist for the forthcoming round of Geneva negotiations, aimed at the solution of the external aspect of the problem, to become a fruitful and final round and rapidly to result in the signing of the documents comprising the settlement.

The documents that comprise the political solution of the situation around Afghanistan are: the bilateral agreement on non-interference and non-intervention between the Republic of Afghanistan and Pakistan; the declaration on international guarantees for the cessation and non-recurrence of interference and intervention; the agreement on the voluntary return of Afghan refugees to their country; the document on interrelationships between the above-mentioned issues, on one hand, and the solution of the question of the return of Soviet limited contingents from Afghanistan, on the other; and an agreement on the mechanism and arrangement for the implementation of the agreements concluded between the parties.

All these documents have been virtually completed and finalized in the course of five and a half years of Geneva negotiations.

As regards the withdrawal of the limited contingent of Soviet troops, it must be mentioned that the conditions for the withdrawal of the troops are stipulated in the speech by the head of the Afghan delegation given at the jubilee session at Moscow on the occasion of the seventieth anniversary of the October Revolution, and the time-frame for the withdrawal of the troops has been agreed upon during the negotiations between the Afghan leadership and the Soviet leadership.

It must be stressed that the question of the withdrawal of the limited contingent of Soviet troops from Afghanistan is directly linked with the cessation of interference and the cessation of the sending of military hardware and equipment to the extremist groups opposing the Afghan State.

With the goal of helping the early and successful conclusion of the process of the Geneva talks, the Government of the Republic of Afghanistan and the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics have agreed that, provided that the Geneva agreements are signed on 15 March 1988, the withdrawal of Soviet troops will start on 15 May 1988 and will be completed within a period of 10 months. As regards the phasing of the withdrawal, it would be acceptable for the Afghan side that a relatively great portion of the troops be withdrawn in the first phase of the time-frame for the withdrawal

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/134-S/19494.

of the Soviet troops. In case the agreements are signed prior to 15 March, the withdrawal of the troops will also start earlier.

We are convinced that, following the withdrawal of the limited contingents of Soviet troops, the military conflict in the country will not be intensified. In our opinion, the occurrence of in-fighting events can be prevented, provided that the forces opposing the Government of the Republic of Afghanistan, who are busy with continuing the war, adopt a responsible position and contribute to peace-seeking activities for ensuring peace and tranquillity for our people. They should understand that if they refuse to heed the voice of wisdom, they will face the staunch will of the Afghan people who want peace and tranquillity in the country, and they will also face the commitments of the States that call for the cessation of interference against Afghanistan.

Adopting such a constructive position, the Afghan side is determined to take part in the forthcoming Geneva talks with a sense of responsibility, realism, wisdom, political boldness, good will and firm political determination.

If certain States or political personalities adopt a position aimed at prolonging the signature of the Geneva agreements, under any pretext whatsoever, it will be one of the manifestations of their desire for the continuation of the tense situation in the region, for damaging the credibility of the mission of the Secretary-General and his personal representative and, finally, for the failure of the process of the Geneva negotiations. In such a case, the responsibility of all the consequences will rest with those whose position contributes to the failure of the process. We, however, hope that such a thing will not occur.

It must also be stated that the conclusion of the Geneva talks and the withdrawal of Soviet limited contingents should not be linked with the conclusion of the efforts aimed at the formation of a coalition government of Afghanistan. The national reconciliation and the coalition government is an exclusively domestic matter and it is only Afghans themselves who must materialize them.

It is not irrelevant to make a mention here of the all-sided internationalist assistance of the Soviet Union. On the basis of good-neighbourly relations and traditional Afghan-Soviet friendship, the Soviet Union has always extended its helping hand to our people in a difficult situation; particularly noteworthy is the military assistance of the Soviet Union to the people and Government of Afghanistan in a critical time, through which the brave sons of the Soviet Union, accepting all sacrifices, stood by our side.

With the withdrawal of the limited military contingents of Soviet troops, all patriotic Afghans are duty bound to express their gratitude to the brave sons of the Soviet Union, to those messengers of peace, justice and progress who, in destiny-making moments, have devoted their lives and all possibilities for defending the freedom, independence and territorial integrity of our country.

No country and people in history have joined hands in co-operation with our people in sad days as have the Soviet Union and its people.

In accordance with its traditional role in ensuring peace and stability in Asia and following the decisions of the Loya Jirgahs and particularly the historical Loya Jirgah of November 1987, Afghanistan will not agree that the whole or a part of its territory become a springboard of aggression against the neighbouring countries. It is our desire to live in peace and friendship with all neighbouring States.

I fully agree and highly evaluate the stand taken by the Soviet leadership, headed by Mikhail Sergevich Gorbachev, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, regarding the political normalization of the situation around Afghanistan. We expect good will and constructive steps from our neighbours, Pakistan and Iran. We hope that Iran will not be left aside from the political solution of the situation around Afghanistan, and we wish its positive contribution in this regard.

It is obvious that the cessation of interference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan is in the interests of our neighbouring countries and their peoples and also in the interests of peace and stability in the region and the international situation at large.

In the series of the peaceful solution of regional conflicts at this sensitive stage, let Afghanistan be the first country to play its historical role in a sense of deep responsibility for world peace and the consolidation of peace and stability in the region.

The peaceful solution of regional conflicts constitutes one of the dimensions of peace and security in the world, the favourable conditions for which was provided by the Soviet-American summit meeting in Washington and the treaty resulting from it.

We invite all the genuine patriots of Afghanistan, all the different groups of the people, tribes and nationalities, among them the honest and patriotic clergy, to be active participants in the struggle for attaining the noble aim of peace and tranquillity of Afghanistan. With such a spirit, the Afghan people will certainly be relieved from war and peace will be restored in the country.

DOCUMENT S/19495*

Letter dated 11 February 1988 from the representative of Maldives to the Secretary-General

[Original: English]
[11 February 1988]

Upon the instructions of my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith a statement issued by the Government of the Republic of Maldives on the situation in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

I have the further honour to request the circulation of the statement as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohamed FAIZ
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission of Maldives
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Statement issued by the Government of Maldives

The Government and the people of the Republic of Maldives strongly condemn the ongoing brutal use of force and the abuse of human rights by the Israeli forces against the Palestinian people in the Israeli-occupied territories of the Gaza Strip and the West Bank. The Maldives also deplores in the strongest terms the continued defiance by the Israeli régime of the numerous United Nations resolutions calling for the withdrawal of its troops from the occupied Arab territories, including Al-Quds al-Sharif.

It is all the more distressing to note that, while the people of Palestine in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank are only exercising their legitimate freedom of expressing their will and peacefully voicing their right to independence and self-determination, they are being brutally attacked by the Israeli troops killing and wounding many Palestinian civilians every day. By resorting to armed violence against the unarmed Arab population of the occupied territories, Israel has once again demonstrated to the entire world that it has no desire to contribute to any effort to find a peaceful solution to the Middle East problem.

The Government and the people of the Republic of Maldives take this opportunity to reiterate their full support to the people of Palestine in their just national struggle for independence, calling upon the United Nations to enforce its numerous resolutions that demand the immediate withdrawal of Israeli forces from the occupied Arab territories and the restoration of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people to self-determination and national statehood on their own soil.

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/135-S/19495.

DOCUMENT S/19497*

Letter dated 10 February 1988 from the representative of Pakistan to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*11 February 1988*]

Further to our letter dated 11 January 1988 [*S/19422*], I have the honour to report to you the following incident in violation of Pakistan territory from the Afghanistan side, which occurred on 26 January 1988.

At 0817 hours, two Afghan fighter aircraft violated Pakistan airspace by approximately 2 kilometers and dropped three bombs in the Chakhai area in the Bajaur Agency. As a result, three civilians (Pakistan nationals) were injured.

The Afghan Chargé d'affaires was called to the Foreign Office on the morning of 9 February and a strong protest was lodged with him over the unprovoked attacks. He was asked to inform the authorities in Kabul that if such attacks did not cease the entire responsibility for the serious consequences would rest on them.

I request you to have this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Shaukat UMER
Acting Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/136-S/19497.

DOCUMENT S/19498*

Letter dated 10 February 1988 from the representative of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to the Secretary-General

[*Original: French*]
[*12 February 1988*]

On instructions from my Government and further to my earlier letters concerning the Thai military attack against Lao territory near Nabonoi commune, Botène district, Sayaboury province, I have the honour to draw your attention to the latest developments in the situation.

On 5 February 1988, in support of their violent infantry attacks, Thai military troops pounded Lao positions with heavy artillery. Exercising their right of self-defence, the local Lao forces responded forcefully, inflicting heavy losses on the Thai side. On 6 February, a remote-controlled Thai aircraft made reconnaissance flights 10 kilometres inside Lao territory and was shot down there by the Lao forces.

On 8 February the Thai newspaper *Siamrath* reported that several members of the Thai Parliament, criticizing the Thai Government's policy of using force to settle the problem, expressed support for a negotiated solution. Some went so far as to doubt the validity of the Thai Government's legal argument alleging Thai sovereignty over the contested region. Despite the opinion in favour of a peaceful settlement of the problem, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Thailand again stated on 9 February that the Thai Government would not negotiate so long as the Lao troops had not withdrawn from the region—in other words, from Lao territory. Even worse, the Thai Minister for Defence stated on the same day that he would be readjusting military tactics with the aim of launching still more violent attacks against the positions of the Lao forces. These two statements demonstrate beyond doubt the desire of the Thai Government to resort to force in order to settle the problem. Consequently, new large-scale attacks are imminent, which may jeopardize good-neighbourliness between the two Lao and Thai peoples as well as peace, stability and co-operation in South-East Asia.

I should be grateful if you would arrange for the text of this letter to be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Alounkeo KITTIKHOUN
Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to the United Nations

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/137-S/19498.

DOCUMENT S/19499

Letter dated 12 February 1988 from the representative of Iraq to the Secretary-General

[Original: Arabic]
[12 February 1988]

On instructions from my Government and further to our repeated letters, the most recent being that contained in document S/19449, concerning the Iranian régime's persistence in bombarding purely residential areas in Iraq, I have the honour to inform you that the forces of that régime committed the following acts of aggression on 7 and 8 February 1988.

Time	*Place*	*Casualties and damage*
0835 to 1000	Qala Diza and Baymalik housing complex	6 wounded, including 3 women and 2 children
1515 to 1600	Sulaymaniyah: Qala Diza and Baymalik housing complex	2 citizens killed, including 1 child; damage to 4 houses

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ismat KITTANI
Permanent Representative of Iraq
to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19500*

Letter dated 12 February 1988 from the representative of Argentina to the Secretary-General

[Original: Spanish]
[12 February 1988]

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a press communiqué issued on 11 February 1988 by the Argentine Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship in connection with the announcement that the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland will conduct military exercises in the Malvinas Islands between 7 and 31 March.

I should be grateful if this note and its annex could be circulated as documents of the General Assembly and of the Security Council and also brought to the attention of the Special Committee on Decolonization.

(*Signed*) Marcelo E. R. DELPECH
Permanent Representative of Argentina
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Text of the press communiqué issued in Buenos Aires on 11 February 1988 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship of the Argentine Republic

The Argentine Government has taken note of the announcement made by the United Kingdom Government that British armed forces are preparing to undertake an exercise, between 7 and 31 March 1988, to test their ability to provide rapid reinforcement of the Malvinas Islands in an emergency. In this operation, Phantom aircraft will be deployed and a significant number of troops will be airlifted to the islands.

This announcement is a very clear demonstration that the British Government, instead of choosing the path of peaceful solutions for the Malvinas question and relations with Argentina, repeatedly recommended by the international community represented in the United Nations and other international organizations, is opting for a show of force. The arbitrary and unjustified attitude of the United Kingdom is particularly striking at a time when initiatives are being undertaken which, channelled through friendly countries, seek to achieve a relaxation of tension in the area.

The Argentine Government, addressing the international community, denounces this decision by the British Government, which constitutes a particularly serious and highly alarming development, creating new and greater tension. The Argentine Government holds the British Government responsible for the consequences of this measure.

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/138-S/19500.

DOCUMENT S/19501*

Letter dated 12 February 1988 from the representative of Viet Nam to the Secretary-General

[Original: English]
[12 February 1988]

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the statement made by the spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam on 9 February 1988 regarding Thailand's latest attacks against Lao territory.

It would be highly appreciated if you could have the text of this letter and its enclosure circulated as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) NGUYEN BINH THANH
Acting Permanent Representative of Viet Nam to the United Nations

ANNEX

Statement made on 9 February 1988 by the spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Viet Nam

As pointed out in a statement by Laos' Ministry of Foreign Affairs on 5 February 1988, the situation along the Lao-Thai border in Nabonoi village of Sayaboury province remained tense in recent days. Regardless of well-intentioned proposals of the Lao People's Democratic Republic and protests of world public opinion, some responsible men in the Thai ruling circles openly encouraged land-grabbing attacks and threatened to use armed forces to "push back the Lao troops out of the disputed area". Thailand has sent a large number of troops in two army regions and its special force, under artillery and air support, to launch massive attacks on Lao positions in the province. More serious still, the Thai air force discriminately dropped bombs, including pellet bombs, to kill many Lao civilians. At the same time, Thailand imposed a ban on trade between the people along the border of the two countries and increased its propaganda and hostile acts against the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

The above-mentioned dangerous escalation of violations has been prompted by the Thai ultra-rightists' systematic attempts to invade Lao territory. Since the signing of the Franco-Siam treaties in 1904 and 1907, they have never given up their intention to encroach upon parts of Lao territory. In the 1941-1946 period, relying on the Japanese fascists in the Second World War, they occupied Lao territory in Sayaboury province. In 1984, Thailand openly sent its troops to invade three Lao hamlets, which issue has not yet been resolved. Thailand's impudent statement about using force to solve the disputes over Nabonoi village indicates that the Thai ruling circles have not given up their ambition to annex Lao territory. Their military adventure supported by international reactionary forces is also aimed at causing tension in the region in a bid to justify their policy of confrontation condemned by public opinion at home and abroad.

The Thai authorities have repeated their accusation of Viet Nam relating to the Lao-Thai border dispute in order to divert public opinion and serve foreign reactionaries' attempts to block the developing trend for dialogue now prevailing in the region. The Thai authorities' acts will surely end in failure because they run completely counter to the interests of the Lao and Thai peoples as well as to the aspiration for peace and stability of other peoples in South-East Asia.

The Socialist Republic of Viet Nam strongly condemns the Thai ultra-rightists for their land-grabbing attacks against Laos and their sabotage of regional peace and stability and demands that they immediately put an end to all these acts. The Vietnamese Government and people absolutely support the just stance and good will attitude of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, which is persistently calling upon Thailand to sit down for negotiations to solve problems in their bilateral relations in the spirit of good-neighbourliness and on the principles expounded in the two Lao-Thai joint statements in 1979. Viet Nam voices full support for the Lao People's Democratic Republic in its struggle to defend sovereignty and territorial integrity.

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/139-S/19501.

DOCUMENT S/19504*

Letter dated 12 February 1988 from the representative of Thailand to the Secretary-General

[Original: English]
[16 February 1988]

With reference to my earlier letters to you concerning the incidents along the Thai-Lao border in the vicinity of Romklao village, Chart Trakarn district, Phitsanulok province, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of a letter dated 5 February 1988, B.E. 2531, of Air Chief Marshal Siddhi Savetsila, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Thailand, addressed to Vernon A. Walters, President of the United Nations Security Council, and to request that the letter be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Nikhom TANTEMSAPYA
Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Thailand to the United Nations

LETTER DATED 5 FEBRUARY 1988 FROM THE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THAILAND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to refer to the various statements of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand, which have already been circulated as official documents of the General Assembly and the Security Council (A/42/709-S/19248, A/43/64-S/19378, A/43/76-S/19401, A/43/117-S/19472), concerning the ongoing situation at the Thai-Lao border at Romklao village, Chart Trakarn district, Phitsanulok province.

In these statements, Thailand has pointed out the following facts.

1. Existing legal and historical evidence clearly affirms that the area in the vicinity of Romklao village, Phitsanulok province, which is recently being claimed by the Laotian Government, falls definitely in Thailand's territory.

2. The Lao side initiated the first use of violence when, on 31 May 1987, 15 Laotian soldiers intruded into Thai territory at Amphoe Chart Trakarn, Phitsanulok province,

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/140-S/19504.

killing an innocent Thai labourer and destroying three tractors owned by a Thai private company.

3. The Thai side has sought in vain time and again to contact the Lao side both at provincial and national levels to stop further violations of Thai territory and to cease its abductions and murders of Thai civilians.

4. The Lao side has responded to the Thai side's peace overtures by sending more troops into Thailand, planting a large number of land mines and occupying Hill 1428, which lies 2 kilometers inside Thai territory.

5. The Royal Thai Armed Forces issued *repeated* warnings to the Laotian intruders to stop further violations of Thai territory and to withdraw from Hill 1428. Finally, the Royal Thai Armed Forces have had to exercise the right of self-defence in order to push back the intruding Lao troops from Thai territory.

Consequently, at present Thai troops are trying to dislodge the Lao soldiers occupying the area of Romklao village, especially Hill 1428. The Thai side has sustained several deaths and casualties as well as the loss of a Royal Thai Air Force plane which was shot down inside Thai territory.

In view of the Lao side's ongoing flagrant violations of Thailand's territorial integrity, there can be no negotiation with the Lao side until there are no longer Lao troops on Thai soil.

The Thai side has from the outset sought to settle this problem in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and international law. Our strong desire to reach a peaceful settlement was affirmed in our aide-mémoire of 30 December 1987 (A/43/76-S/19401, annex). Furthermore, I have stated my readiness to meet with my counterpart, Mr. Phoun Sipaseuth, Foreign Minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, in Bangkok, if he so wishes. However, there has yet to be a positive response from him.

In spite of several frustrated efforts on our part to seek an amicable solution to the problem of Laotian intrusion into Thai territory, Thailand stands ready to co-operate with the Security Council in bringing about a peaceful and total withdrawal of Laotian troops from Thai territory.

Air Chief Marshal Siddhi SAVETSILA
Minister for Foreign Affairs of Thailand

DOCUMENT S/19505*

Letter dated 13 February 1988 from the representative of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to the Secretary-General

[*Original: French*]
[*16 February 1988*]

On instructions from my Government and further to my earlier letters concerning the situation along the Lao-Thai border in the Nabonoi area, I have the honour to draw your attention to the recent attacks launched by Thai military forces on Lao civilian targets.

On 11 February, six Thai F-5 fighter-bombers bombed the Lao village of Nakok, situated 30 kilometres inside Lao territory, causing serious damage and casualties: a number of Lao villagers were wounded, some were killed, two houses were destroyed, a school was seriously damaged and about 20 buffaloes and cows were killed. Between 0530 and 1530 hours that same day, Thai military forces pounded several Lao villages in Nabonoi commune with heavy artillery of various calibres (nearly 300 105 mm-130 mm and 155 mm shells were fired).

At 1400 hours on 12 February, six Thai F-5 fighter bombers again bombed the Lao village of Nakok, seriously damaging five houses and killing four villagers. During the same period, Thai military forces fired over 1,800 shells of various calibres at Lao territory in the vicinity of Botène district.

These Thai military attacks, defying all morality, are extremely serious acts and the Lao Minister for Foreign Affairs protested vigorously to the Thai Government about them on 13 February.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter distributed as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Alounkeo KITTIKHOUN
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission
of the Lao People's Democratic Republic
to the United Nations

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/151-S/19505.

DOCUMENT S/19506*

Letter dated 10 February 1988 from the representative of Cyprus to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*16 February 1988*]

Upon instructions from my Government, I wish to bring to your most urgent attention and that of the membership of the Security Council and of the General Assembly the following ominous development.

As you are aware, on 14 and 21 February 1988 Presidential elections are to take place in Cyprus. The Government of the Republic of Cyprus requested, in this respect, the assistance of the United Nations for the purpose of facilitating the temporary transfer of the enclaved Greek Cypriots from the occupied areas to the free areas of the Republic

* Circulated under the double symbol A/42/916-S/19506.

so as to allow them to exercise their inalienable and fundamental right to vote in these elections.

According to your Acting Special Representative, Mr. Holger, the reply given to him by the pseudo Minister for Foreign Affairs of the illegal entity in the Turkish occupied areas is that: "The Greek Cypriots (in the occupied areas) are considered to be citizens of the T.R.N.C. and they will not be authorized to vote".

This new outrageous provocative action of the Turkish side is an affront to the United Nations Organization, to the Security Council and to the General Assembly, because it violates all United Nations resolutions on the question of Cyprus. I would like to draw your attention to the mandatory provisions contained in these resolutions that clearly define the policy of the international Organization and of all States and that unequivocally call for support for the Government of the Republic of Cyprus, which is internationally recognized, and condemn the illegal entity installed by Turkey in the occupied areas of the Republic:

(a) "*The Security Council,*

"...

"*Reaffirming* its resolutions 365 (1974) and 367 (1975),

"...

"1. *Deplores* the declaration of the Turkish Cypriot authorities of the purported secession of part of the Republic of Cyprus;

"2. *Considers* the declaration referred to above as legally invalid and calls for its withdrawal;

"...

"6. *Calls upon* all States to respect the sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and non-alignment of the Republic of Cyprus;

"7. *Calls upon* all States not to recognize any Cypriot State other than the Republic of Cyprus" (Security Council resolution 541 (1983));

(b) "*The Security Council,*

"...

"3. *Reiterates* the call upon all States not to recognize the purported State of the 'Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus' set up by secessionist acts and calls upon them not to facilitate or in any way assist the aforesaid secessionist entity" (Security Council resolution 550 (1984));

(c) "*The General Assembly,*

"...

"*Affirms* the right of the Republic of Cyprus and its people to full and effective sovereignty and control over the entire territory of Cyprus and its natural and other resources and calls upon all States to support and help the Government of Cyprus to exercise [the above-mentioned] rights" (see para. 3 of General Assembly resolution 34/30 of 20 November 1979 and para. 2 of resolution 37/253 of 13 May 1983, respectively).

The Government of the Republic of Cyprus denounces before the international community this new illegal action of Turkey, which strikes at the very heart of the above-mentioned United Nations decisions as well as your efforts to achieve a just and lasting solution of the problem of Cyprus.

My Government strongly holds that, in the light of the ominous implications inherent in this new Turkish illegality, there is a compelling need for action to be taken urgently by you to allow the enclaved Greek Cypriots to move to the free areas of the Republic in order to exercise their right to vote in the forthcoming Presidential elections.

I should be grateful if this letter were circulated as an official document of the forty-second session of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Constantine MOUSHOUTAS
Permanent Representative of Cyprus
to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19507

Letter dated 16 February 1988 from the representative of Bolivia to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Spanish*]
[*16 February 1988*]

I have the honour to transmit to you the text of the press release issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship of Bolivia concerning the terrorist attack on an aircraft of the airline of the Republic of Korea on 29 November 1987.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and the annexed text distributed as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Erwin ORTIZ-GANDARILLAS
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission of Bolivia
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Press release issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship of Bolivia

The Constitutional Government of Bolivia forcefully condemns the terrorist act perpetrated against an aircraft of the Korean airline of 29 November 1987 in which 115 innocent people lost their lives. The Government wishes to reiterate its position, formulated on a number of occasions in various international organizations, of condemning all terrorist acts with the utmost firmness as a crime against humanity that violates the principles established by the United Nations and international law. Bolivia regards terrorism as a political instrument that is inimical to the development and promotion of international peace and security and leads only to the recrudescence of tensions among peoples, with its consequent effects on their social and economic progress. Bolivia therefore pursues a policy based on recognition of the international agreements in force relating to the various aspects of the problem of international terrorism. Aware of the need to broaden and improve international co-operation among States, the Government of Bolivia, at the forty-second session of the United Nations General Assembly, supported resolution 42/159, on measures to prevent international terrorism and the convening of an international conference to define terrorism, which should be held in the near future under the auspices of the United Nations.

DOCUMENT S/19508*

Letter dated 12 February 1988 from the representative of Nicaragua to the Secretary-General

[Original: Spanish]
[16 February 1988]

I have the honour to transmit to you the text of the note dated 8 February 1988 that Mr. Miguel d'Escoto Brockmann, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Nicaragua, sent to Mr. George Shultz, Secretary of State of the United States.

I should be grateful if you would have this note circulated as an official document of the forty-second session of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Julio ICAZA GALLARD
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission of Nicaragua
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Letter dated 8 February 1988 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Nicaragua to the Secretary of State of the United States

I am once again obliged to make the strongest possible protest against the following terrorist and criminal acts.

On Thursday, 4 February 1988, shortly after a majority of the United States House of Representatives had rejected the approval of further funds for the contras, a group of mercenaries set off three Claymore mines in order to kill passengers on a civilian bus passing through the district of San José de la Podrida, 12 kilometres to the north-west of Quilalí. As a result of the explosion and subsequent action by groups of mercenaries, who shot at the injured civilians, 18 people were killed, including the following children: Enrique Peralta Blandón and Juan Carlos Peralta, both six months old, Luis Enrique Briones Orozco, nine months old, and Denis Moreno Cordoba, who was 13 years old. Eighteen people, including José Hugo Almendarez, 10 years of age, were injured in the same circumstances.

I also wish to lodge a strong protest about the fact that at 8:30 p.m. on Saturday, 6 February, a mercenary in your Government's service threw a fragmentation grenade into a group of civilians taking part in a demonstration at Wiwilí in protest against the cowardly attack of Thursday, 4 February. As a result of that treacherous and criminal act nine people were killed, including the following children: Lesbia Migdalia Moreno Cruz, Lester and Sara Amelia Martínez, Marlene Rodríguez and Francisca Mefalia Valdivia Arauz. Moreover, 31 people were injured, including many children.

This, Sir, is the sort of act carried out daily by the mercenary forces set up, armed and trained by your Government, in implementation of an unlawful policy of terror, death and destruction. When the Government of the United States, ignoring the majority vote against that policy, seeks new alternatives and ways of continuing its support for the terrorist forces that it has set up, it is not only refusing to change a policy that has been referred to by all concerned as immoral and unlawful but is also condemning to death defenceless civilians, including Nicaraguan children.

The tragic events that I have described show that the war against Nicaragua is continuing, despite the vote in Congress. Thus, the United States Government is rejecting the option of a political, negotiated solution to the Central American crisis supported by the five Presidents of the region, the Contadora and Support Groups, the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, the European Community and the entire international community, including the majority of the American people and the United States Congress.

On the contrary, your Government is insisting on pursuing an unlawful policy of war against Nicaragua that has been condemned as such by the International Court of Justice.

Once again the Government of Nicaragua calls upon the United States Government to consider the matter and, heeding the outcry from the international community, abandon this policy of State terrorism, which leads only to the slaughter of more innocent people, and to opt for a definitive end to the war.

If progress is to be made towards a political solution, it is essential that the President of the United States should not obstruct the implementation of the Esquipulas II agreements [*see S/19085, annex*] and the agreement reached at the Costa Rica summit meeting [*see S/19447, annex*], and that he should support the negotiation of a cease-fire and enter into a direct dialogue with Nicaragua with a view to taking up discussion of security issues of legitimate concern to both parties and thus conclude verifiable agreements leading to the establishment of an honourable and respectful relationship between our two Governments.

* Circulated under the double symbol A/42/917-S/19508.

DOCUMENT S/19509*

Letter dated 16 February 1988 from the representative of Nicaragua to the Secretary-General

[Original: Spanish]
[16 February 1988]

I have the honour to refer to the letter sent to you on 9 February by the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of El Salvador [*S/19486*] to which was attached a note from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of that country, addressed to you in your capacity as Secretary Pro Tempore of the International Verification and Follow-up Commission.

In that connection, my Government considers it necessary to reiterate the strong and clear position it has maintained since the signing in Guatemala, on 7 August 1987, of the Esquipulas II agreements [*see S/19085, annex*] and the establishment of the International Verification and Follow-up Commission. Since that time, Nicaragua has maintained the need to establish a permanent on-site verification mechanism to which Nicaragua would open its doors on the basis of reciprocity and in the context of the above-mentioned agreements. It is common knowledge that the International Verification and Follow-up Commission has encountered obstacles in its attempts to establish such a mechanism; these obstacles stem not from Nicaragua but rather from an unwillingness on the part of other countries which are signatories to the Esquipulas II agreements.

In the conviction that verification is an essential aspect of the Esquipulas II agreements, my Government proceeded, in a note dated 20 January 1988 and signed by Miguel d'Escoto Brockmann, Minister for Foreign Affairs, to invite you together with the Secretary-General of the Organization of American States and the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the countries that are members of the Contadora Group and

* Circulated under the double symbol A/42/918-S/19509.

the Support Group, to continue to be responsible for verifying fulfilment of the commitments entered into at the Guatemala and San José summits.

One of the main aims of the recent tour of Western Europe, carried out by Daniel Ortega Saavedra, President of Nicaragua—a tour which included Spain, Italy, Sweden and Norway—was precisely to ask for those countries' co-operation in the fundamental matter of verification of the commitments contained in the Guatemala and San José agreements.

We can best demonstrate our commitment to the implementation of the agreements not through false accusations or propagandistic zeal, which is not in the interest of peace in Central America, but through co-operation and a willingness of the parties to work out appropriate verification mechanisms.

The next meeting of the Executive Commission, scheduled for 16 February in San Salvador—which, as stated in the Joint Declaration of the Central American Presidents issued at San José on 16 January [*S/19447, annex*], is to secure "the co-operation of States of the region or from outside the region, or bodies of recognized impartiality and technical competence, which have indicated their desire to co-operate in the Central American peace process" in order to fulfil its main function, namely, to verify, monitor and follow up all the commitments—will be an excellent opportunity for moving towards the establishment of a competent and impartial verification mechanism that would include on-site inspection, and for demonstrating, once again, our willingness to comply and our commitment to peace which our people all yearn for so greatly.

I should be grateful if you could see to it that this note is distributed as an official document of the forty-second session of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Julio ICAZA GALLARD
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission of Nicaragua
to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19510*

Letter dated 16 February 1988 from the representative of Democratic Kampuchea to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*16 February 1988*]

I have the honour to transmit herewith for your information the text of the communiqué of the Council of Ministers of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea issued on 10 February 1988.

I should be very grateful if you would have the communiqué circulated as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) THIOUNN PRASITH
Permanent Representative of Democratic Kampuchea
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Communiqué of the Council of Ministers of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea issued on 10 February 1988

1. With the high permission of 18 January 1988 of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, President of Democratic Kampuchea, Son Sann, Prime Minister of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea (CGDK), presided over a meeting of the Council of Ministers of the CGDK. This meeting was attended by Khieu Samphan, Vice-President of Democratic Kampuchea in charge of Foreign Affairs, and Prince Norodom Ranariddh as the Representative of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, as well as by eight Ministers of the CGDK.

The Council of Ministers listened with appreciation to Khieu Samphan's report on his recent meeting with Samdech Norodom Sihanouk in Beijing and was satisfied with the results of that meeting.

2. The Council of Ministers summed up with satisfaction the progress made in the struggle in every field, military, political and diplomatic, carried out by the three patriotic forces and the whole Khmer people with the active support of the overwhelming majority of the countries the world over.

At present, the Vietnamese aggressors have found themselves in a more bogged-down situation in Kampuchea, in utmost difficulties at home and very isolated in the international community.

The Council of Ministers was determined to intensify the common struggle for national liberation on the battlefield and on the international arena.

3. The Council of Ministers expressed its hope and conviction that Samdech Norodom Sihanouk would very soon resume his function as President of Democratic Kampuchea. Meanwhile, the Council of Ministers continues to respect and consider him as the President of Democratic Kampuchea. He is a great patriot and a well-known Khmer leader who has a very important role to play in the current struggle to compel Viet Nam to withdraw its troops from Kampuchea and in defending the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Kampuchea within a liberal democratic régime.

4. As long as the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam has not withdrawn its troops from Kampuchea, the CGDK will resolutely continue its present patriotic struggle.

The Council of Ministers decided to increase the co-operation among the CGDK's three patriotic forces.

5. The Council of Ministers would like to appeal to all the patriotic forces and the whole Kampuchean people to intensify their struggle in all battlefields throughout the country against the Vietnamese aggressors until the complete liberation of the nation.

6. The Council of Ministers would also like to take this opportunity to express its deep gratitude to all friendly countries who have been supporting the struggle for national liberation of the Kampuchean people and to call on them to continue this support and unremittingly put pressure on Viet Nam to withdraw its troops from Kampuchea.

7. The meeting of the Council of Ministers proceeded in a warm atmosphere of solidarity, unity and cordiality, and with a firm conviction in the final victory of the national liberation struggle of the whole nation and people of Kampuchea.

(*Signed*) SON SANN
KHIEU SAMPHAN
NORODOM RANARIDDH

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/153-S/19510.

DOCUMENT S/19511*

Letter dated 16 February 1988 from the representative of Viet Nam to the Secretary-General

[Original: English]
[16 February 1988]

Upon instructions from my Government, and further to my earlier letter dated 12 February 1988 [*S/19501*], I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the statement issued on 13 February by the Government of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam on the situation along the Lao-Thai border.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex distributed as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) NGUYEN BINH THANH
Acting Permanent Representative of Viet Nam to the United Nations

ANNEX

Statement issued on 13 February 1988 by the Government of Viet Nam

In order to put an early end to the bloody conflict and the tense situation in the Nabonoi area, Botène district, on the Lao-Thai border, on 11 February 1988 the President of the Council of Ministers of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Kaysone Phomvihane, sent a letter to Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanonda of the Kingdom of Thailand [*S/19521, annex IV*] proposing that the two sides send their military delegations to negotiate an end to the conflict, separate their army forces far from each other, set up a joint commission to supervise the cease-fire and isolate their armed forces; send a joint technical team to investigate the field and find out a way to settle the border issue in that area; and request the United Nations Secretary-General to help promote the holding of negotiations.

The Government of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam warmly welcomes and fully supports the above-cited proposals of President Kaysone Phomvihane, considering them to be constructive and practical, strongly manifesting the policy of peace and the good will of the Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic in persistently settling the disputes between the two countries by peaceful negotiations. Together with a series of proposals made earlier, this new proposal manifests a high sense of responsibility on the part of the Lao People's Democratic Republic towards the maintenance of the traditional relations of friendship and the legitimate interests of the peoples of the two countries in accordance with principles of the two joint Lao-Thai statements in 1979.

The Government of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam welcomes the response made by the Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand [*S/19512, annex*] to the proposals of President Kaysone Phomvihane. The Government of Viet Nam believes that with the efforts and good will of both sides, the conflict in Nabonoi area will soon be ended and the relations between Laos and Thailand will be improved in conformity with the interests of the two peoples and other peoples in the region, and of peace in South-East Asia and elsewhere in the world.

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/154-S/19511.

DOCUMENT S/19512*

Letter dated 16 February 1988 from the representative of Thailand to the Secretary-General

[Original: English]
[16 February 1988]

With reference to my earlier notes to you concerning the incidents along the Thai-Lao border in the vicinity of Romklao Village, Chart Trakarn district, Phitsanulok province, and upon the instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith for your information the English translation of the message dated 12 February 1988 from General Prem Tinsulanonda, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand, to Mr. Kaysone Phomvihane, Prime Minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

In this connection, I have further the honour to request that this letter and its annex be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Nikhom TANTEMSAPYA
Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Thailand to the United Nations

ANNEX

Message dated 12 February 1988 from the Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand to the Prime Minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic

[Translation]

I received your telegram dated 11 February 1988, expressing the desire to stop the unnecessary bloodshed between our two peoples. This is a good intent.

Actions thus far taken by the Thai side have been dictated by the imperative need to defend our territorial sovereignty, actions which are firmly founded in international law, being based on widely recognized treaty evidence and relevant maps. We have never had any intention of causing the loss of lives to our Laotian brothers if Thailand's legitimate right had not been clearly violated.

In the spirit of brotherliness, I wish to respond to you that we shall be pleased to welcome your military delegation in Bangkok on Tuesday, 16 February 1988, in order to find ways to ease the tension, and allow for consultations on legal and moral grounds, which will be considered as the basis for subsequent negotiations between our two countries.

General Prem Tinsulanonda
Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/155-S/19512.

DOCUMENT S/19513

Letter dated 16 February 1988 from the representative of Angola to the President of the Security Council

[Original: English]
[16 February 1988]

I have the honour to forward the attached communiqué issued by my Government with the request that it be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Toko DIAKENGA SERÃO
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission of Angola
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Communiqué issued on 11 February 1988 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Angola

The South African Government has announced that a Regional Conference on Peace in southern Africa is to be held, with the participation of a number of countries in the region. Both SWAPO [*South West Africa People's Organization*] and Unita will reportedly participate in this conference.

The Government of the People's Republic of Angola has not received any formal proposal to participate in such conference. This makes the initiative a clearly propagandistic event, and we feel that it is important to alert public opinion on that.

In organizing a regional conference with the participation of the Unita puppet group, South Africa's intention is to draw attention away from the true nature of the southern African conflict and renege its responsibilities.

South Africa is responsible for the war and for the climate of instability prevailing in the region. Such a situation, as acknowledged by the international community, is caused by South Africa's repeated attacks on neighbouring countries from the illegally occupied Namibian territory, by the creation and support of armed groups which spread the terror among front line countries and by its refusal to grant civil and political rights to black South Africans.

The Government of the People's Republic of Angola does not deny to South Africa the status of a rightful party to a settlement on the regional conflict, and it stands ready to continue indirect contacts and to consider the possibility of direct discussions. If we decide to start direct contacts, the Angolan Government will announce the conditions for such negotiations and will demand that South Africa reject the mediation of the United States.

The Government of the People's Republic of Angola considers that the Unita participation in the conference is a tactical manoeuvre on the part of South Africa to gain more time and continue to exert pressure by maintaining its military forces in the south of Angola.

Logic and consistency should make it obligatory for SWAPO and ANC [*African National Congress*], as well as other patriotic forces of South Africa, to participate in the process for negotiations on peace in southern Africa. The international recognition gained by these organizations would justify this.

The mention of the Unita puppet participation can only take all credibility from the South African proposal, because Unita has no legal capacity to be a participant. In this context, the proposal is not constructive nor a serious one; it constitutes a mere propaganda exercise.

DOCUMENT S/19514

Note by the President of the Security Council

[Original: English]
[17 February 1988]

The attached letter, dated 16 February 1988, was addressed to the President of the Security Council by Mr. Pak Gil Yon, Permanent Observer of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations. In accordance with the request contained in the letter, the text is being circulated as a document of the Security Council.

ANNEX

Letter dated 16 February 1988 from the observer of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to forward to you the text of the statement dated 16 February 1988 of the spokesman for the Foreign Ministry of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea concerning the discussion of the KAL incident in the Security Council of the United Nations.

I request that this letter, together with the enclosed statement, be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

ENCLOSURE

Statement dated 16 February 1988 by the spokesman for the Foreign Ministry of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

According to the announcement of a spokesperson for the United Nations, the closed-door consultative meeting of the Security Council on 12 February decided to discuss the KAL incident at an emergency meeting of the Security Council on 16 February.

Japan and the south Korean puppets, instigated by the United States, requested the Security Council to discuss the KAL incident, groundlessly charging the Democratic People's Republic of Korea with the incident.

At the consultative meeting, the representatives of the Soviet Union and China, permanent member nations of the Security Council, opposed the discussion at the Council of the KAL incident requested by Japan and the south Korean puppets.

The KAL incident has nothing to do with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. It is a premeditated massacre of fellow countrymen committed by the south Korean puppets themselves. The "results of investigation" announced by them are no more than a false document fabricated by them. The south Korean puppets have so far produced no material evidence concerning the incident and have not made an unbiased investigation into the incident.

Moreover, the world public unanimously considers that there are real criminals among 13 south Korean puppet government officials who deplaned in Abu Dhabi, but the south Korean puppets have mentioned nothing about them up to now.

Although the truth and nature of the incident have been made clear, why have the United States, Japan and south Korean puppets brought up in the Security Council the KAL incident which is not a matter to be discussed there? It is to conceal at any cost their heinous conspiracy in fabrication of the incident, impair the international authority of our Republic and justify aggression and division moves in south Korea. It is also to put down the every-growing anti-United States, anti-"government" spirit of the popular masses in south Korea and tide over the serious crisis of the south Korean puppet clique who find themselves in a dilemma within and without.

The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea bitterly denounces the United States, Japan and the south Korean puppet clique for attempting to discuss the KAL incident in the Security Council with a

sinister political purpose, as a mockery of the Charter of the United Nations and unbiased public opinion of the world and as an intolerable challenge to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

According to the Charter of the United Nations, the Security Council has an important mission in maintaining world peace and security. It ought to discriminate between good and bad in conformity with the United Nations purpose and its mission and should not tolerate the dirty linkage between the United States, Japan and south Korean puppet clique aimed at exploiting the KAL incident for their sinister political purpose.

If the United States and the south Korean puppets think they can abuse the Security Council in covering up their criminal machinations just as they misused the United Nations flag after unleashing a war of aggression against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in the 1950s, this is a serious miscalculation.

Up to this day when 35 years have passed since the signing of the Korean Armistice Agreement the United States keeps its troops more than 40,000 strong stationed in south Korea under the cloak of "United Nations Forces" and introduced a large number of nuclear weapons, systematically violating the Agreement. Ignoring our repeated proposals for easing tensions, they, together with the south Korean puppets, are steadily intensifying the moves to provoke a war against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

As everybody knows, the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea proposed the convocation of a north-south joint conference and the adoption of a peace agreement between us and the United States in order to turn this year the situation of the Korean peninsula into one favourable for the peace of the country and its peaceful reunification, the situation which the world people are following with deep concern.

This notwithstanding, the United States and the south Korean puppets, instead of affirmatively responding to our peaceful nation-saving proposal, answered it with the arms build-up and large-scale "Team Spirit 88" joint military exercises under the pretext of "safe Olympic opening". They are also using the jetliner incident in deliberately leading the relations between north and south to the extreme pitch of strain.

In order to ease the tensions and preserve peace on the Korean peninsula, it is imperative to take a due measure to frustrate the malicious smear campaign and war provocation moves undertaken by the United States imperialists and the south Korean puppets, not being embroiled in such a plot as the passenger plane incident cried over by those bereft of reason.

The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea dismisses as unreasonable the Security Council discussion of the passenger plane incident in defiance of the opposition of the world's peace-loving countries. But it will see that the criminal nature and colour of the sinister triangular linkage among the United States, Japan and south Korean puppet clique is roundly exposed and condemned by us at the meeting since the debate was proposed to vilify us. It is convinced that the Governments and peoples of the world that love justice and peace will express due support and understanding towards our just stand.

DOCUMENT S/19515

Letter dated 17 February 1988 from the representative of Bahrain to the President of the Security Council

[Original: Arabic]
[17 February 1988]

On instructions from my Government, I wish to refute the charges made in the letter of 10 February 1988, addressed to you by the Permanent Observer of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and contained in document S/19492, as well as the statement made by the Permanent Observer to the Security Council at its 2791st meeting, on 16 February 1988, concerning the role of the Government authorities of the State of Bahrain in delivering the woman named Hachiya Mayumi and the body of the man named Hachiya Shinichi, who had committed suicide, to the authorities of the Republic of Korea. These charges are entirely without foundation.

In this connection I should like to inform you that it has been proved beyond doubt in a comprehensive investigation undertaken by the authorities in Bahrain that the two individuals mentioned were involved in the explosion of the aircraft (flight 858) of the South Korean airline.

In accordance with the Government of the State of Bahrain's international commitments under the Convention on Offences and Certain Other Acts Committed on Board Aircraft, signed at Tokyo on 14 September 1963,[10] and the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Civil Aviation, signed at Montreal on 23 September 1971,[11] the Government authorities of the State of Bahrain, having considered the request submitted by the Government of the Republic of Korea for the extradition of Hachiya Mayumi and the body of Hachiya Shinichi, and having been informed by the Government of Japan that it had no objection to such action if the State of Bahrain likewise had no objection, delivered Hachiya Mayumi and the body of Hachiya Shinichi to the Government authorities of the Republic of Korea in conformity with the provisions of those two Conventions.

Accordingly, the Government of my country categorically rejects the allegations contained in the aforementioned letter and those voiced by the Permanent Observer of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the effect that it was as a result of threats and bribery that Mayumi and the body of Shinichi were handed over. Such lies and calumnies, besides arousing astonishment and disapproval, also give rise to condemnation and scorn, since they constitute totally baseless fabrications.

I should also like to affirm, on behalf of my Government, that the woman concerned, who appeared on television in the Republic of Korea, and the confessions she made with respect to her involvement in the explosion of the Korean aircraft, are identical to the individual detained and to the information acquired by the security authorities in Bahrain.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter distributed as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Karim AL-SHAKAR
Permanent Representative of Bahrain
to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19516

Letter dated 16 February 1988 from the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Secretary-General

[Original: English]
[18 February 1988]

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to bring the following to your urgent attention.

At 2125 hours, on 12 February 1988, American helicopters flying ahead of a convoy of American warships escorting reflagged Kuwaiti oil tankers diverted from their normal course and violated Iranian territorial waters in the Persian Gulf. This act of aggression with the aim of gathering sensitive data from the islands of Siri and Abu Musa as well as Salman and Nasr oil platforms was repulsed with the fire of anti-aircraft defences of the islands. Further details will be provided in due course.

It would be highly appreciated if this letter were circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammad Ja'afar MAHALLATI
Acting Permanent Representative
of the Islamic Republic of Iran
to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19517*

Letter dated 17 February 1988 from the representative of Afghanistan to the Secretary-General

[Original: English]
[18 February 1988]

I have the honour to inform you that the Chargé d'affaires of the Pakistan Embassy in Kabul was summoned to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on 17 February 1988 and the following protest note was conveyed to him by the Deputy Director of the First Political Division.

"According to the information of the security authorities of the Republic of Afghanistan, on 11 February 1988, the military forces of Pakistan fired 775 ground-to-ground missiles on Spin Boldak county of Kandahar province. As a result, one of the inhabitants of the county was martyred, ten others were wounded and one school and one mosque were destroyed.

"Similarly, on 12 February, at 11.40 a.m., an aircraft of the Pakistani air force violated the airspace of the Republic of Afghanistan 40 kilometres off Wazah Khwa and then returned.

"The Government of the Republic of Afghanistan lodges its strong protest to the Government of Pakistan and demands from the relevant authorities of Pakistan to seriously refrain from repeating such irresponsible acts which will result into nothing but further deterioration of the situation. Otherwise, the responsibility for the grave consequences of such acts would lie on the shoulders of the authorities of Pakistan."

I have further the honour to request the circulation of this letter as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Shah Mohammad DOST
Permanent Representative of Afghanistan
to the United Nations

*Circulated under the double symbol A/43/156-S/19517.

DOCUMENT S/19518*

Letter dated 18 February 1988 from the representative of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to the Secretary-General

[Original: Arabic]
[18 February 1988]

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of a letter addressed to you by Mr. Jadallah Azzouz Talhi, Secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison, in which he expresses the concern of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya at the heinous crimes perpetrated by the Zionist entity in the occupied Arab territories.

*Circulated under the double symbol A/43/157-S/19518.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter distributed as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ali A. TREIKI
Permanent Representative
of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
to the United Nations

LETTER FROM THE SECRETARY OF THE PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE OF THE PEOPLE'S BUREAU FOR FOREIGN LIAISON OF THE LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

The Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya expresses its keenest concern at, and reprobation of, the heinous crime committed by soldiers of the Zionist entity in the occupied Arab territories in burying four Palestinians alive in the village of Salim (Nablus area). This unspeakable crime is not simply a violation of human rights, it is a veritable act of genocide against the Palestinian people, which confirms before the whole world that the crimes perpetrated by the Zionist entity, implanted in the heart of the Arab nation, are worse than the crimes against humanity committed by nazism.

Responsibility for these crimes must be assumed not only by the Zionist entity but also by all those who side with and support the Zionist military organization and first and foremost by the United States of America, which, by giving the Zionist entity military, political, economic and information support, has enabled it to commit genocidal crimes against children of the Palestinian people.

While condemning the heinous crimes of zionism with the greatest vigour we wish to appeal, through you, to the international community and to world public opinion to put an end to the crimes against humanity perpetrated by the Zionist entity and to oppose firmly its terrorist policy, which is incompatible with the Charter of the United Nations, international instruments and the custom of nations.

The General Assembly resolution equating zionism with a form of racism reflects very faithfully the real nature of the Zionist régime, and the time has come to exclude from the United Nations and its specialized agencies this racist régime whose criminal practices exceed in horror the crimes against humanity perpetrated by nazism.

Jadallah Azzouz TALHI
Secretary of the People's Committee
of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison
of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya

DOCUMENT S/19519*

Letter dated 18 February 1988 from the representative of Turkey to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*19 February 1988*]

I have the honour to attach herewith a letter dated 18 February 1988 addressed to you by Mr. Özer Koray, representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus.

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex were circulated as a document of the forty-second session of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ilter TÜRKMEN
Permanent Representative of Turkey
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Letter dated 18 February 1988 from Mr. Özer Koray to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose herewith the text of a statement issued by Mr. Rauf R. Denktaş, President of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, on 13 February 1988, concerning Greek Cypriot elections in Southern Cyprus.

I should be grateful if this letter and its enclosure were circulated as a document of the forty-second session of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

ENCLOSURE

Statement made on 13 February 1988 by Mr. Rauf R. Denktaş

The Greek Cypriot people in Southern Cyprus will be going to the polls on Sunday to elect a new leader for their administration. The people of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, like the people of other countries in the region, will naturally be following this event with interest.

It should be stressed that the Greek Cypriot leader to be elected as a result of these elections will be the head of none other than the Greek Cypriot Administration in Southern Cyprus, and certainly not the "President of Cyprus" as a whole. In view of the persisting misconceptions and false claims that that leader is or will be the "President" of the whole of Cyprus, I felt it necessary to underline this point once again.

It is a fact that, in Cyprus, there exist two distinct peoples and two separate, independent political entities, the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus and Greek Cypriot Administration in Southern Cyprus, a situation that came about as a result of the well-known past events perpetrated by the Greek Cypriot side, going back to 1963.

These two independent political entities naturally also have their own legislative and executive organs, to which the two peoples elect their own representatives. The Turkish Cypriot people elect their own President and Members of Parliament through free and democratic elections based on universal suffrage. The last of the presidential and parliamentary elections in the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus were held separately in June 1985.

The elections that are about to be held in Southern Cyprus, on the other hand, are one in which the Greek Cypriot people alone will elect their own leader. That these elections are of no direct concern to the Turkish Cypriot people can also be clearly observed from the fact that, within the framework of the political realities explained above, no single Turkish Cypriot is involved, in any way, with the Greek Cypriot elections in Southern Cyprus, either as a candidate or as a voter.

This being the case, I would like to express the hope that the new Greek Cypriot leader who will emerge from these elections will adopt a constructive and realistic posture towards a negotiated solution in Cyprus, on the basis of a bi-national, bi-zonal federation, as previously agreed, and as also envisaged by the Secretary-General's draft framework agreement on Cyprus of 29 March 1986 [*S/18102/Add.1, annex II*].

* Circulated under the double symbol A/42/920-S/19519.

DOCUMENT S/19520* **

Letter dated 19 February 1988 from the representative of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to the Secretary-General

[Original: English]
[19 February 1988]

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the unofficial translation from the Lao language of the joint press release issued by the Lao and Thai military delegations at Bangkok on 17 February 1988.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Alounkeo KITTIKHOUN
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission
of the Lao People's Democratic Republic
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Joint press release of the Lao and Thai military delegations issued at Bangkok on 17 February 1988

The consultations between the military delegation of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, led by General Sisavat Keobounphanh, head of the supreme staff of the Lao People's Army, and the Thai military delegation, led by General Chavalit Yongchaiyudh, Thai army commander and acting supreme commander, were held at Bangkok on 16 and 17 February 1988. The consultations between the military delegations of both countries took place in an atmosphere of comprehension and brotherliness with both sides showing their sincere desire to cease the confrontation and bloodshed in the area connecting Sayaboury province to Phitsanoulok province. Hence, both sides have agreed over the important issues which can be summed up as follows.

1. Both sides will proceed to an immediate cease-fire starting from 8.00 a.m. on 19 February 1988.
2. Both sides will move their respective troops away from the present area of confrontation to 3 kilometres on each side within 48 hours from the cease-fire.
3. A military co-ordinating commission will be established immediately after the cease-fire to supervise, control and co-ordinate the strict implementation of agreements formulated in points 1 and 2 above.
4. Both sides deem it necessary to order their respective troops which are accomplishing their duty along the Lao-Thai border to avoid confrontation and to co-ordinate with understanding.

The delegations from both sides view these agreements as liable to bring about an atmosphere conducive to negotiations for the peaceful and political settlement of the problems in this area and have, hence, proposed to their respective Governments to start negotiations through diplomatic channels within 15 days after the cease-fire, in order to erase the differences concerning the Lao-Thai boundary in this area following the principles of law and justice on the basis of the 1907 Franco-Siamese treaty and relevant maps.

* Incorporating document S/19520/Corr.1 of 24 February 1988.
** Circulated under the double symbol A/43/158-S/19520.

DOCUMENT S/19521* **

Letter dated 16 February 1988 from the representative of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to the Secretary-General

[Original: English/French]
[19 February 1988]

Further to my earlier letters concerning incidents along the Lao-Thai border in the region of Nabonoi commune, Botène district, Sayaboury province, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the texts of the message dated 3 February 1988 that Mr. Phoun Sipaseuth, Vice-President of the Council of Ministers and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, addressed to Mr. Vernon A. Walters, President of the Security Council (annex I); my letter dated 11 February to the President of the Security Council and the other members of the Council (annex II); the message dated 11 February that Mr. Phoun Sipaseuth sent to the President of the Security Council (annex III); and the message dated 11 February that Mr. Kaysone Phomvihane, President of the Council of Ministers of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, addressed to Mr. Prem Tinsulanonda, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand (annex IV).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annexes distributed as official documents of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Alounkeo KITTIKHOUN
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission of
the Lao People's Democratic Republic
to the United Nations

ANNEX I

Message dated 3 February 1988 from the Vice-President of the Council of Ministers and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to inform you that, since early 1987, those in power in Thailand have dispatched armed troops to encroach upon the territory of the Nabonoi commune, Botène district, Sayaboury province. However, since 15 December 1987, these invasions have grown in intensity, ranging from the use of heavy artillery to the use of aircraft and shells filled with phosphorous and chemical agents. This has occurred even though the problem of the three Lao villages located in the Paklay district of that province has not yet been settled and the United Nations Security Council, by virtue of its decision of 9 October 1984, remains seized of this question.

This dangerous situation is now growing even worse following statements by the Commander-in-Chief of the Thai army and his Minister of Defence in which they threatened to use their military superiority to drive Lao troops out of the region, i.e., from Lao territory. In view of this serious situation which threatens good-neighbourliness between the two peoples as well as peace, stability and co-operation in South-East Asia, I should be grateful if you would use your influence to convince Thailand to begin negotiations with the Lao side immediately and unconditionally with a view to settling this problem by peaceful means.

(*Signed*) Phoun SIPASEUTH
Vice-President of the Council
of Ministers and
Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Lao People's Democratic Republic

* Incorporating document S/19521/Corr.1 of 24 February 1988.
** Circulated under the double symbol A/43/159-S/19521.

ANNEX II

Letter dated 11 February 1988 from the representative of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to the President of the Security Council

Further to my earlier letters, I have the honour to provide you with more information on the Thai attack against Lao territory.

As I understood, Mr. Siddhi Savetsila, the Thai Foreign Minister, has again very recently stated that he is ready to meet with Mr. Phoun Sipaseuth, the Lao Foreign Minister, at Bangkok, if the latter so wishes. The Thai Foreign Minister has also added that "there has yet to be a positive response from the Lao Foreign Minister". To be honest, such a statement was merely of a propagandistic nature. It was clearly designed to hoodwink both the Thai public opinion as well as the world community. To set the record straight, I take the liberty to share with you the following facts:

On 28 January 1988, the Thai Chargé d'affaires a.i. at Vientiane informed the Lao Foreign Ministry that "the Thai Foreign Minister expressed the desire to meet with the Lao Foreign Minister at Bangkok".

On 29 January the Thai Ambassador, returning from Bangkok, made clear, in a press conference held at Vientiane, that there will be no negotiations as long as the Lao troops are not withdrawn from the Thai territory.

On 1 February a Counsellor of the Thai Embassy at Vientiane handed over a memorandum to the Lao Ministry, in which the Thai Government again insisted that the "Lao Government must withdraw its troops from the Thai territory before talks".

With these facts, my Government has concluded that the Thai Government persists in advancing the withdrawal of the Lao troops from the area, that is, from our own territory, as a pre-condition for talks (the Lao Government has also demanded that Thailand withdraw its troops from this area, but has not posed such a withdrawal as a pre-condition for negotiation, as we had already accepted to negotiate with Thailand in 1984, although the Thai troops at that time still occupied our three villages). The so-called readiness of the Thai Foreign Minister to meet with the Lao Foreign Minister has therefore no meaning. To this day, the Lao Government has received no more official Thai response to our consistent proposal for negotiation.

I hope that this supplementary information would be useful for you in the coming days during the informal consultations you may plan to hold on this matter.

(*Signed*) Alounkeo KITTIKHOUN
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission of
the Lao People's Democratic Republic
to the United Nations

ANNEX III

Message dated 11 February 1988 from the Vice-President of the Council of Ministers and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to the President of the Security Council

Given the extreme seriousness of the situation that is currently obtaining in the region of Nabonoi, and in order to end this useless bloodshed between the Lao and Thai peoples, to maintain peace, security and stability in this region and to create a propitious atmosphere for dialogue, I have the honour to inform you that the Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, true to its position of peace, friendship and good-neighbourliness and aspiring to entertain stable friendly relations and co-operation with the Kingdom of Thailand, following the principles contained in the two Lao-Thai joint declarations of 1979, has forwarded new proposals, as mentioned in the message of the President of our Council of Ministers, Mr. Kaysone Phomvihane, dated 11 February 1988, addressed to Mr. Prem Tinsulanonda, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand. By the terms of the message, the Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic stands ready to send a military delegation to Bangkok or to receive the Thai military delegation at Vientiane, with a view to holding consultation over these proposals as follows:

(1) Both sides should cease fire instantly and should move their troops away from each other and establish a joint military commission aimed at supervising the cease-fire and the troop removal.

(2) Both sides should nominate a technical survey team to inspect the field, to search for a solution of the border problem in this region and to submit it to their respective Governments.

(3) Both sides should appeal to the good offices of the Secretary-General of the United Nations for the implementation of agreements reached by both sides.

Looking forward to receiving your kind comprehension and active co-operation in the matter, I request you to accept the assurances of my highest consideration.

(*Signed*) Phoun SIPASEUTH
Vice-President of the Council of Ministers
and Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Lao People's Democratic Republic

ANNEX IV

Message dated 11 February 1988 from the President of the Council of Ministers of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to the Prime Minister of Thailand

As you are well aware, the incidents that have occurred in the region of Nabonoi, Botène district, Sayaboury province, have lasted for a long time, causing heavy damages in properties and undesirable losses of lives of the peoples of our two countries. These incidents are a transgression of the Lao-Thai joint declarations of 1979, seriously undermining the relations of good-neighbourliness between the two countries, Laos and Thailand. They have extended in a worrisome manner, threatening peace and stability in this region of South-East Asia. This grave situation calls for the immediate settlement of the problem by negotiations.

Inspired by its constant policy maintaining the traditional relations of friendship and legitimate interests of the peoples of the two countries for peace and stability in South-East Asia, the Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic has proposed several times that both sides should together start solving the issue of confrontation in the region of Nabonoi on the basis of equality and without pre-conditions. But it is regrettable that the proposals forwarded by the Lao side, especially the one expressed in the declaration of the Lao People's Democratic Republic on 25 January 1988 [*S/19457, annex*], have not met with a favourable response. On the contrary, the situation in this region is becoming increasingly strained.

In order to put an end immediately to the useless bloodshed of the Lao and Thai brother peoples, I deem it necessary to entrust the armed forces from both sides to organize a meeting in view of an immediate settlement of the problem. The Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic stands ready to send its military delegation to Bangkok or to receive the Thai military delegation in Vientiane for a consultation over the following proposals:

(1) Both sides should cease fire instantly and should move their troops away from each other and establish a joint military commission aimed at supervising the cease-fire and the troop removal.

(2) Both sides should nominate a technical survey team to inspect the field, to search for a solution of the border problem in this region and to submit it to their respective Governments.

(3) Both sides should appeal to the good offices of the Secretary-General of the United Nations for the implementation of agreements approved by both sides.

I hope to receive from you a favourable response to our good will proposals in order to put a term to this bloody confrontation as soon as possible.

(*Signed*) Kaysone PHOMVIHANE
President of the Council of Ministers
of the Lao People's Democratic Republic

DOCUMENT S/19522*

Letter dated 19 February 1988 from the representative of Thailand to the Secretary-General

[Original: English]
[22 February 1988]

With reference to my earlier notes to you concerning the incidents along the Thai-Lao border in the vicinity of Romklao village, Chart Trakarn district, Phitsanulok province, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the translation of the joint press statement of the Thai-Lao military delegations dated 17 February 1988, issued at the end of their meeting at Bangkok on 16 and 17 February.

In this connection, I have further the honour to request that the present letter and the text be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Nikhom TANTEMSAPYA
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission of Thailand
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Joint press statement of the Thai-Lao military delegations issued at Bangkok on 17 February 1988

The talks between the Thai military delegation, led by General Chavalit Yongchaiyudh, Commander-in-Chief of the Royal Thai Army and Acting Supreme Commander of the Royal Thai Armed Forces, and the Lao military delegation, led by General Sisavat Keobounphanh, Chief-of-Staff of the Lao People's Army, were held at Bangkok on 16 and 17 February 1988. The talks between the two delegations were conducted in a brotherly spirit of good understanding and cordial atmosphere. Both sides have expressed their sincere determination to put an end to the clashes and bloodshed in the area where Phitsanulok and Sayaboury provinces adjoin, and agreed on the following.

1. A cease-fire shall be observed by both sides as from 0800 hours of 19 February 1988.

2. Both sides shall disengage their respective troops 3 kilometres from their present line of contact within 48 hours after the commencement of the cease-fire.

3. A joint military co-ordinating group shall be set up to strictly verify, inspect and co-ordinate the implementation of paragraphs 1 and 2 above immediately after the cease-fire.

4. Both sides deem it necessary to instruct their respective troops along the Thai-Lao border to avoid armed clashes and to co-ordinate with each other in a spirit of understanding.

Both delegations are of the view that the above points, which have been mutually agreed upon, have created an atmosphere conducive to negotiation for the purpose of finding a peaceful and political solution and shall recommend to their respective Governments to begin political negotiation in earnest within 15 days after the commencement of the cease-fire in order to resolve the boundary problem between Thailand and the Lao People's Democratic Republic in this area based on international law and the provisions of the Franco-Siamese treaty of 1907 and relevant maps.

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/160-S/19522.

DOCUMENT S/19523*

Letter dated 22 February 1988 from the representative of Viet Nam to the Secretary-General

[Original: English]
[22 February 1988]

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you the text of the statement by the spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam dated 20 February 1988 regarding China's violation of Vietnamese waters.

I should be grateful if you would arrange for the text of this letter and its annex to be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) NGUYEN BINH THANH
Acting Permanent Representative of Viet Nam
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Statement made on 20 February 1988 by the spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Viet Nam

On 31 January 1988, while two Vietnamese freighters were operating normally in the waters of Viet Nam's Truong Sa archipelago, four warships of the Chinese navy, which had illegally entered Vietnamese waters, engaged in acts of provocation and obstruction. The four Chinese vessels are still in Vietnamese waters. In recent days, the Chinese side has dispatched more warships to the said area.

Following a series of violations of Vietnamese territory in the Truong Sa archipelago by the Chinese navy in recent years, such as reconnaissance, surveying, military exercises and the erection of stone markers, the recent illegal acts have clearly revealed the Chinese authorities' intention to violate Vietnamese territorial sovereignty, thus seriously jeopardizing the security of Viet Nam and other nations on the rim of the East Sea and creating tension and instability in South-East Asia. These acts lie in the framework of the Chinese authorities' longstanding scheme of violating Vietnamese territory and expanding in the East Sea.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam once again reaffirms its sovereignty over the Truong Sa and Hoang Sa archipelagos, vehemently condemns and protests the above acts of the Chinese authorities, and strongly demands that the latter withdraw all its warships from Vietnamese waters and put an immediate end to all violations of Vietnamese territorial sovereignty. The Chinese authorities are held fully responsible for all consequences of their acts.

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/162-S/19523.

DOCUMENT S/19524*

Letter dated 22 February 1988 from the representative of Turkey to the Secretary-General

[Original: English]
[22 February 1988]

I have the honour to attach herewith a letter dated 22 February 1988 addressed to you by Mr. Özer Koray, representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus.

I should be grateful if this letter were circulated as a document of the forty-second session of the General Assembly and of the Security Council

(*Signed*) Ilter TÜRKMEN
Permanent Representative of Turkey
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Letter dated 22 February 1988 from Mr. Özer Koray to the Secretary-General

I have the honor to enclose herewith the text of a statement issued by Mr. Rauf R. Denktaş, President of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, inviting the new Greek Cypriot leader to a meeting at the Ledra Palace.

I should be grateful if this letter and its enclosure were circulated as a document of the forty-second session of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

ENCLOSURE

Statement of Mr. Rauf R. Denktaş dated 22 February 1988

The President of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, Mr. Rauf R. Denktaş, has called upon the new leader of the Greek Cypriot people, Mr. Vassiliou, to meet him at the Ledra Palace "in order to get acquainted and have a social, informal talk".

Below is the statement issued by President Denktaş.

"Our Greek Cypriot neighbours in the South have just elected their new leader, to whom I would like to extend my congratulations.

"As I had already stressed in my previous statement made on the eve of the Greek Cypriot elections, Mr. Vassiliou, who has been elected solely by Greek Cypriot electors, is the leader of only the Greek Cypriot people, which is one of the two equal parties to the Cyprus dispute. It is in that capacity that I call upon him to meet me, say at the Ledra Palace, in order to get acquainted and have a social, informal talk with me, not dealing with any specific matters of substance.

"It should be clearly understood, however, that such a meeting would be between the leaders of the two politically equal peoples or between the Presidents of two equal political entities. This principle of political equality has always been the basis of any effort aiming at finding a solution to the Cyprus problem.

"It should also be made clear that the meeting which I propose would be without prejudice to the respective positions of the two sides."

* Circulated under the double symbol A/42/923-S/19524.

DOCUMENT S/19525

Letter dated 23 February 1988 from the representative of Iraq to the Secretary-General

[Original: Arabic]
[23 February 1988]

On instructions from my Government and further to our numerous letters concerning the Iranian régime's continued bombardment of purely residential areas in Iraq, I have the honour to inform you that, on 12, 21, 22 and 23 February 1988 the forces of that régime committed the acts of aggression enumerated below.

Time	*Place*	*No. of missiles*	*Casualties and damage*
12 February			
1030 to 1200 hrs	Outskirts of Khanaqin town	11	1 house damaged
21 February			
1100 hrs	Basra: Ali Nur village	1	1 citizen killed
1950 to 2000 hrs	Sulaymaniyah governorate: Qala Diza		3 houses damaged
22 February			
2045 to 2120 hrs	Sulaymaniyah governorate: Qala Diza and Beymalik residential complex	5	1 citizen wounded and 5 houses damaged
23 February			
2130 to 2200 hrs	Sulaymaniyah governorate: Qala Diza and Beymalik residential complex	5	

I should be grateful if you would have this letter reproduced as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ismat KITTANI
Permanent Representative of Iraq
to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19537*

Letter dated 24 February 1988 from the representative of Jordan to the Secretary-General

[Original: Arabic]
[25 February 1988]

I am sending you a report containing the most recent information on the measures taken by the Israeli occupation authorities during the month of January 1988 in the Arab territories occupied by them since 1967. These measures comprise Israeli settlement operations, the confiscation of land and acts of aggression against Arab citizens and their property.

At a time when the international community, both inside and outside the framework of the United Nations, is preoccupied by the deteriorating situation in the Arab territories occupied by Israel, as a result of the repressive measures being carried out by the Israeli occupation authorities to counter the Arab population's rejection of that occupation, the annexed report clearly demonstrates that Israel remains determined to carry out its plans for the expansion of Israeli settlement, the confiscation of land and the perpetration of acts of aggression against Arab citizens, which in each case violate the principles of international law relating to military occupation and, in particular, the Hague Convention of 1907[7] and the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949.[1]

During the period reviewed in the annexed report, Israel confiscated 800 dunums of occupied Arab land, bringing the total confiscated between the time when the Arab territories were first occupied in 1967 and the month of January 1988 to 2,755,276 dunums. During that same month, 27 Arab male and female citizens were killed by the Israeli occupation forces and Israeli settlers, some 950 Arabs were hurt or injured and about 5,000 were arrested.

By setting forth in the annex the details of these attacks and practices, I should like to emphasize to you, and through you to the international community, the danger which the continuation of such a policy and such practices represent for international peace and security and for peace efforts and prospects in the region.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Abdullah SALAH
Permanent Representative of Jordan
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Monthly report on Israeli settlement operations and acts of aggression against Arab citizens and their property during January 1988

During the period under review in this report, the occupied Arab territories saw the popular uprising of Arab citizens under Israeli occupation enter its second month, while the Israeli occupation authorities employed abhorrent methods in an attempt to suppress and stifle that uprising.

One of the methods used by the Israeli occupation authorities during the period was that of laying siege to the Palestinian refugee camps for a period in excess of 12 days and of preventing the 300,000 residents of those camps (200,000 of them in the Gaza Strip and 100,000 in the West Bank) from leaving the camps to obtain food, which ran out during the first days of the siege. Furthermore, no permission was granted for their needs to be met from outside.

The Israeli army authorities also deliberately pursued a policy of "beating and breaking" against Arab citizens in the cities, villages and camps of the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip. On 18 January Israeli Minister of Defence Yitzhak Rabin ordered soldiers of the Israeli army operating in the occupied territories to use their truncheons to beat citizens and deliberately to inflict fractures and severe bruises. These Israeli policies and practices led, *inter alia*, to the killing of 27 male and female citizens and the wounding and injury of hundreds more. With regard to the victims of the "beating and breaking" policy, sources in the occupied territories indicated that 600 Arab citizens of the Gaza Strip were taken to hospital for the treatment of fractures in various parts of their bodies (mostly in the head, hands and legs), while some 200 male and female citizens of the West Bank were admitted to hospitals for the same reasons. It is to be noted that these numbers include only those of the injured who went to hospital and exclude those who preferred to be treated in their homes, their number being estimated at 150 male and female citizens.

The number of Palestinians arrested during the period, against the backdrop of the events in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, is estimated at some 5,000. A senior official in the Israeli army admitted that most of the detainees had been arrested without sufficient justification because the Israeli soldiers did not know which individuals had actually been involved in the "disturbances" and were therefore arresting anyone who happened to be on the spot at the time of demonstrations or stone-throwing incidents.

Meanwhile, the occupation authorities' determination to suppress the Arab uprising did not prevent them from persisting in their daily pattern of aggression against Arab territory and the Arab population. The authorities issued orders for the confiscation of 800 dunums of Arab land and continued their attempts to increase Jewish settlement in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and to draw up plans to attract and encourage Jews, particularly new immigrants, to take up residence in those settlements which have already been established in the occupied West Bank.

As regards attacks on the liberties and human rights of the Arab population, the Israeli authorities continued to pursue their inhuman policy and to impose harsh individual and collective punishments. These included the sentencing of 227 citizens of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip who appeared before the military courts. The sentences ranged from imprisonment for many years or several months to the imposition of heavy fines. The occupation authorities placed 86 citizens under administrative detention for a period of six months, placed two citizens under house arrest, ordered the expulsion of nine Arab citizens, including four to southern Lebanon, demolished 22 Arab houses, imposed a curfew in most major cities of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and in all the Gaza Strip camps and ordered the closure of all Arab schools and five universities.

Details of these acts of aggression follow.

I. CONFISCATION OF LAND

The Israeli occupation authorities confiscated 800 dunums of land belonging to the villages of Sanniryah and Qarawa Bani Hassan, south-east

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/166-S/19537.

of the city of Qalqilyah (Nablus governorate). The area of land confiscated by the Israeli authorities between June 1967 and January 1988 thus reached a total of 2,755,276 dunums.

During the course of 1987, the occupation authorities confiscated a total of 13,693 dunums of land in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip. A table showing all the confiscations which took place during the past year in each separate district, the location of the confiscated land and the date of its confiscation is set forth below.

Area of land confiscated (in dunums)	*Location of confiscated land*	*Date of confiscation*
(*a*)	Nablus governorate	
250	Shufah (Tulkarm)	26 March
1 500	Qarawa Bani Hassan (Nablus)	27 March
17	Immatin	14 May
300	Jinsafut (Qalqilyah)	20 May
4 500	Bayt Dajan	1 June
400	Salim	1 June
700	Yasuf and Jamma'in	30 July
700	Kafr Laqif, Kafr Thulth and Dayr Istya	19 August
1 500	Salfit and villages of Mardah and Iskaka (Tulkarm)	19 August
500	Jamma'in and Yasuf	12 August
1 200	Burin (Nablus)	20 October
6	Azzun (Qalqilyah)	27 November
20	Kafr Laqif (Qalqilyah)	7 December
2 000	Qusin	18 December
(*b*)	Jerusalem governorate	
20	Al-Furaydis (Bethlehem)	12 January
300	Wadi Fukin (Bethlehem)	16 January
130	Al-Khadr (Bethlehem)	22 November
130	Bayt Fajjar (Bethlehem)	22 November
(*c*)	Hebron governorate	
120	Surif and Kharas	7 January
550	Dura	1 April
3 000	Dura	29 August
(*d*)	Gaza Strip	
22	South-west of Khan Younis on the road to Rafah	10 June

Also during January 1988, the Israeli authorities—in the form of the Supreme Administration Council—announced the launching of the settlement project known as "Regional Road No. 60". Work is to begin in early February 1988. This project will cause great damage to the land of a number of Arab villages, including Al-Khadr (near Bethlehem), as the intention is to divide the village into two separate halves and to allow the road to pass between them. It is also intended that 50 per cent of the village's land should be confiscated, that 2,000 dunums of cultivated land should be destroyed and that 20 houses should be demolished. The village council of Al-Khadr and its citizens presented as many as 69 complaints about the project, but the Israeli authorities rejected the complaints on the grounds that there was no alternative. The proposed road will be 8 kilometres long and 50 metres wide and will be flanked by a 75-metre-wide shoulder on either side in which construction will be prohibited over the entire length of the road.

II. Settlement

On 12 January Israeli Minister of Housing David Levi laid the foundation-stone of a new Jewish settlement called Levna south of the city of Hebron. Twenty-three Jewish families are supposed to move and take up permanent residence in the new settlement in the near future. The settlement is reported to be one of the colonies whose construction was agreed in 1984 in the context of the agreement concluded between Labour and Likud on the formation of a coalition Government.

During the ceremony in which the foundation-stone was laid, the Minister of Housing said that the settlement process in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip would not be halted despite what he called the recent disturbances and incidents. It was planned that 2,000 new residential units should be erected in the West Bank settlements and occupied by Jews during the course of the year, compared with 1,500 new residential units constructed during 1987.

With regard to the increasing level of right-wing extremism and fanaticism among the population of the Jewish settlements in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, a number of Jewish settlers raised their voices to call for imposition of the harshest collective and individual punishments on Arabs in response to the escalation of the tremendous popular uprising, which is referred to by the Israelis in such terms as "acts of violence" and "violations of security and order". The calls include the urging of Shilo Gal, head of the Jewish Settlements Council in the occupied West Bank, that the Israeli Government should extend Israeli law to parts of the occupied territories, because such a measure—which in effect means annexation—was the only means of convincing the Arab population that Israel would not bow to pressure and did not intend to give up the West Bank.

On 15 January, at the first meeting of the Jewish Settlements Council in the occupied West Bank since the beginning of the uprising, the Council decided to step up efforts to "support and expand the Israeli presence in the territories". Those attending the meeting sharply criticized Israeli leftist movements, peace movements and other voices calling for an end to the occupation or a relaxation of the iron fist policy and the repression and maltreatment of Arab citizens. The statement issued by the Council accused these movements of reducing the ability of the Israeli forces to respond to the "violence and disturbances". The statement expressed satisfaction with the Israeli measures of repression against Arab citizens and support for the policy of expulsion, use of live ammunition, siege of the camps and other methods used by the occupying Power in putting down the uprising.

At a meeting of leading members of the Herut movement, Israeli Minister of Industry and Trade Ariel Sharon called for an increase in settlement activities in the occupied territories. He referred to Israeli expectations that the number of Jewish settlers in the occupied territories would increase during the current year by about 10,000. With respect to the Jewish settlement budget, the Israeli Minister of Economics and Planning, Gad Y'Acobi, said in a statement published on 27 January that the funds spent on the construction of Jewish settlements in the occupied territories during the past 20 years of occupation amounted to a total of $20 billion.

III. Acts of aggression against Arab citizens and their property

The Israeli occupation authorities carried out a number of acts of aggression during January. In doing so, they acted alternately with Jewish settlers and with other Jewish extremists and racists.

Details of acts of aggression which resulted in damage to the person, property or land of citizens follows.

(a) *Aggression against Arab land*

1. On 17 January the Israeli military authorities ploughed up eight dunums of land planted with citrus trees belonging to the village of Bayt Hanun in the Gaza Strip, alleging that the site had been used by demonstrators. The authorities also put up a barrier made of sand on the road west of Bayt Hanun and another barrier on the eastern side of the village.

2. On 20 January "unidentified persons" carried out, for the fifth time, an act of aggression against land owned by the citizen Muhammad Ibrahim Hamid in the village of Azzun, near Nablus. They cut down and destroyed 50 cultivated olive trees. This land is located close to an Israeli settlement called Ma'aleh Shomron.

3. On 20 January "unidentified persons" destroyed 200 olive trees on privately owned land in an area known as Wadi al-Hamam, near the village of Bayt Ula (Hebron governorate). The damage was estimated at some 2,000 Jordanian dinars.

(b) *Aggression against Arab citizens and their property*

1. Israeli army forces several times during the month confiscated copies of Arab newspapers published in Jerusalem which were sent for distribution in cities of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. The confiscations took place without any orders being issued or any reasons being given. On one occasion, Israeli soldiers severely beat up the representative of the newspaper *Al-Fajr* in Khan Younis.

2. On 2 January a number of Israeli soldiers raided the centre of the Arab city of Jerusalem and beat up a number of citizens, including a 64-year-old Arab woman.

3. On 5 January a group of Israeli Border Guard soldiers fired random shots in the Bab al-Sahirah area of the Old City of Jerusalem. They caused terror and confusion among Arab citizens in the area.

4. On 7 January a number of residents of the village of Al-Rashaydah (Bethlehem) complained of constant harassment by the Israeli authorities

and so-called administrators, who were preventing them from grazing their animals on land belonging to their village on the pretext that it was a closed military zone. The citizens said that three residents of the village had recently been detained and tried on charges of grazing animals in the forbidden zone. Heavy fines amounting to 3,000 shekels had been imposed on each one of them.

5. On 14 January two Jewish settlers killed an Arab youth from the village of Battin (Ramallah). The two settlers were members of the extremist Gush Emunim settler movement: Valar Stein, the chairman of one of the settlement councils in the occupied West Bank; and Shay Ben-Joseph, the Council's official in charge of security. The two settlers fired at a group of Palestinian youths, killing one 17-year-old and injuring two others.

6. On 15 January Israeli Border Guard soldiers assigned to guard the house of the terrorist Sharon in the Muslim quarter of Arab Jerusalem attacked a group of Arabs living in that quarter and prevented them from entering their homes. They beat them and sprayed them with tear-gas. Many incidents have occurred in which Arab citizens have complained of repeated attacks against them by Sharon's guards and constant harassment of the population, including body searches each time they enter or leave their houses and a ban on their receiving visitors.

7. After the Friday prayer on 15 January Israeli police and army forces intercepted Arab worshippers in the courtyard of the holy Al-Aqsa Mosque and chased them through the alley-ways of the Arab city of Jerusalem. The Israeli forces' use of barbaric methods of repression resulted in 52 citizens receiving fractures in the hands and another 80 cases of various bruises or choking which required treatment in hospital.

8. On 15 January Israeli customs agents confiscated the cargoes of Arab vehicles which were transporting citrus fruits form the city of Nablus to Bethlehem. The customs agents detained two Arab drivers and confiscated the cargoes of their vehicles on the grounds that they had committed a violation and were transporting citrus fruits from the West Bank through the streets of Jerusalem without permission.

9. On 17 January members of the right-wing racist Kach movement attacked an Arab quarter in the Jabal al-Mukabbir area of the city of Jerusalem. They smashed the windscreens of a number of vehicles parked in the quarter and slashed their tyres, besides smashing a number of windows of Arab houses.

10. On 18 January large numbers of Israeli army forces broke the locks on a number of stores in the city of Nablus and forced them open in the absence of their proprietors. The military authorities also forced many owners of businesses in Qalqilyah to go to their stores after they had broken the locks and forced open their doors. These Israeli practices came in the context of the occupation authorities' attempt to break the general strike being conducted by residents of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

11. On 19 January large numbers of occupation army soldiers stormed the Nablus municipality building, where they beat up citizens who were inside, severely injuring many of them, including seven women who suffered fractures and various other injuries.

12. On 14 January the Israeli authorities confiscated 240 sheep and goats belonging to four Arab citizens from the village of Kisan (Bethlehem). During the confiscation, one of the victims resisted the Israeli authorities in an attempt to prevent them from confiscating his possessions. The occupation soldiers responded by shooting him dead. The authorities subsequently imposed exhorbitant fines amounting to 6,279 shekels on the three citizens who owned the confiscated sheep and goats.

13. A group of settlers from Anatot, east of Jerusalem, attacked the nearby village of West Hazma after midnight on 22 January. The settlers attacked a number of Arab houses, smashed their windows and fired shots into the air.

14. On 27 January a group of Israeli army soldiers raided the Nuseirat Palestinian refugee camp in the Gaza Strip. The soldiers used truncheons and stones to smash the windows of houses and the façades of stores. Heavy military vehicles also rammed a number of simple houses in the camp and demolished parts of them.

15. On 24 January Israeli army soldiers attacked the home of Ibrahim Al-Khuri, the Greek Orthodox priest in the occupied West Bank town of Bayt Sahur. The planned attack resulted in Mr. Al-Khuri's elderly mother (58) and his wife and son being overcome after tear-gas canisters were thrown into the house. The object of the attack was to terrorize the Arab priest and to "punish him" for holding funeral and memorial services for those killed in the uprising.

16. Israeli army soldiers raided the Nuseirat refugee camp after midnight on 26 January and forced male residents aged between 15 and 40 to gather in one of the open spaces inside the camp. There, soldiers beat up residents, using truncheons and rifle-butts. They forced them to stand naked in the rain and bitter cold for a period of five hours.

17. A group of heavily armed settlers from the two settlements of Eilon Moreh and Kdumim in the Nablus area stormed into the city of Nablus in the early hours of the morning of 25 January and began to spray bullets in every direction. The windows of dozens of Arab houses were shattered and vehicles parked in the city's streets were damaged. Army and Border Guard forces in Nablus did not lift a finger to deter or halt the actions of the settlers.

18. On 25 January a number of Jewish settlers chased dozens of children from villages in the Qalqilyah area on the pretext that the children had been throwing stones. The settlers fired on the children and captured four of them. They beat them viciously, with the result that the children suffered various fractures.

19. On 25 January a group of armed settlers from the Ofra settlement raided a school in the village of Ayn Yabrud and fired bursts of bullets inside the school, with the intention of spreading fear and terror amongst the teachers and students. They also beat up a number of teachers and students, who suffered fractures and other injuries.

20. On 29 January three Israelis attacked an Arab youth from Gaza in the city of Tel Aviv. The 16-year-old youth said that he was approached by three Israelis dressed in civilian clothes while he was strolling near his place of work in Tel Aviv. They said that they were policemen and asked him to present proof of his identity and "show his permit to stay". They then gave him a severe beating and took him to another place where they continued to beat him although he more than once lost consciousness.

21. A report presented by two Knesset members from the Ratz Party on 31 January stated that Israeli soldiers had raided a house in the Jabalia Palestinian refugee camp (Gaza Strip) at 10 a.m. Inside the house, the 75-year-old citizen Muhajir al-Wahidi was eating his breakfast. The Israeli soldiers gave him a severe beating, using their truncheons, with the result that he suffered fractures in the hand and various bruises on his back and head.

22. The Israeli parliamentarians' report also stated that Israeli army soldiers smashed the windows of dozens of houses in the Nuseirat camp, following orders issued to them by higher political authorities, and that armoured vehicles deliberately inflicted damage on houses as they passed beside them.

23. On the evening of 31 January a large group of Jewish settlers stormed into the town of Anabta (Tulkarm). The armed settlers, who were estimated to number about 750, conducted a provocative procession through the streets of the town, sounding their car-horns and smashing the windscreens of a number of vehicles belonging to Arab citizens which were parked in the streets of the town.

IV. Israeli practices and violations of human rights in the occupied Arab territories

During the period under review in this report, the Israeli authorities persisted in those daily practices which, taken as a whole, constitute a violation of the rights of Arab citizens, as prescribed and upheld by international covenants and treaties and the resolutions of international bodies and their affiliated agencies. Details of the violations and of punishments imposed by the occupation authorities on Arab citizens in the occupied Arab territories during the month of January are as follows.

1. *Arrests*

(a) *Collective arrests*

Sources in the occupied territories estimated the number of those arrested during January at 5,000. Senior officials in the Israeli army admitted that the number of detainees was very high because the occupation soldiers were unable to determine who was really taking part in actions which warranted arrest. They were therefore arresting all youths and men found in an area where a demonstration or stone-throwing was taking place. The officials also admitted that Israeli detention centres and prisons were extremely overcrowded as a result of the large number of arrests and that they were therefore planning to construct new detention centers to hold large numbers of detainees.

Most of the detainees were not brought to trial or charged with any specific crime. They spent periods ranging from a few hours to 48 hours in the detention centres and police stations, where they were subjected to beating and abuse before being released.

The occupation soldiers used extremely inhumane methods when they arrested Arab youths. These included the incident, as reported by the Israeli newspaper *Ma'ariv*, in which a number of Israeli soldiers operating in the Gaza Strip strapped Arab detainees to the front of their military ve-

hicles and then drove them through parts of the city of Rafah. In another incident, soldiers extinguished their lighted cigarettes on the skin of Arab detainees. An Israeli officer admitted that most Arab detainees reached interrogation centres "bruised" as a result of the severe beating to which they had been subjected, and in such a bad state that it was difficult for the interrogators to question them. Another Israeli officer admitted that the soldiers of his unit had harshly beaten Arab youths after arresting and handcuffing them and that every soldier who passed through the area where Arab detainees were held readily aimed punches and blows at the handcuffed youths.

Details of collective arrests carried out during January 1988 follow.

1. On 1 January Israeli army forces stormed dozens of houses in the Gaza Strip and arrested about 70 youths on the pretext that they were subject to preventive detention.

2. On 7 January 15 youths from the Nuseirat camp in the Gaza Strip were arrested for investigation of their alleged participation in a demonstration in that camp.

3. On 7 January Israeli police forces in Jerusalem arrested 20 Arab girls who had taken part in a protest march.

4. On 7 January army forces stormed the Shu'fat Palestinian refugee camp and detained five youths for questioning.

5. On 10 January Isareli police forces arrested 8 women and 11 youths in Jerusalem after a demonstration in the city.

6. On 13 January the Israeli police carried out a sweep operation in the Jabal al-Mukabbir area of Jerusalem. They detained a number of youths who were in the area at the time.

7. On 15 January dozens of Arab worshippers were detained after the Friday prayer at the Al-Aqsa Mosque.

8. On 20 January Isareli army forces arrested 15 youths in the Al-Ram area of Jerusalem without giving any reasons.

9. On 20 January the occupation forces stormed the Dheisheh Palestinian refugee camp and detained a number of youths, who were taken to the new detention camp at Al-Zahiriyyah.

10. On 30 January during the siege of the village of Sa'ir (Hebron governorate), Israeli army forces stormed houses in the village and detained 20 citizens.

11. On 30 January 11 youths were arrested in the Shu'fat camp without any reasons being given.

(b) *Penalties imposed on Arab detainees*

Two hundred and seventy-seven male and female Arab citizens appeared before Israeli military courts in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip during January. Various charges were brought against them, including those of demonstrating and throwing stones, which were described by the Israeli military authorities as "violations of security and order". Others were tried on charges of belonging to Palestinian organizations or of bearing arms. The sentences imposed on the accused ranged from three to six months' imprisonment with a further suspended sentence to imprisonment for several years.

Most of those tried during the month were people facing contrived charges of demonstrating and throwing stones. All of them were sentenced to imprisonment and fines averaging between 1,000 and 1,500 shekels in each case. The total amount of fines imposed by military courts during the month was estimated at approximately 175,000 shekels and 200 dinars, i.e. the equivalent of $116,500.

With regard to the nature of the trials of Arab detainees, all were sham trials carried out in haste. In spite of the provision that trials must be public, the occupation soldiers prevented citizens from attending them, to the extent that even the family and relatives of the person on trial were prevented from entering the courtroom.

The farcical character of Israeli justice was emphasized by a delegation of Greek lawyers which visited the occupied territories. It issued a statement noting that "trials are held under unacceptable conditions which constitute an insult to all democratic peoples ... trials of Palestinian youths accused of security violations are held hastily and in an authoritarian atmosphere, with Palestinian lawyers rarely being able to perform their duties as defence lawyers as a result of the many ways in which the occupation authorities impede contact between the lawyer and his client and obstruct trial procedures".

(c) *Administrative detention*

The Israeli occupation authorities placed 86 citizens from the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip under administrative detention during the month, for periods ranging between three and six months.

Israeli sources reported that 129 Palestinians had been placed under administrative detention since the beginning of the uprising on 8 December 1987. Most of them are prominent figures, including trades-unionists, journalists, academics and students from the Palestinian universities.

2. *Restrictions on freedom of movement*

(a) *House arrest*

The occupation authorities placed Hashim Muhammad Sa'id Abu Hasan, from the village of Arrabunah (Jenin), and Umar Abd al-Latif, from the village of Battir (Bethlehem), under house arrest.

(b) *Curfew*

The Israeli occupation authorities imposed a curfew in most cities and villages of the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip and in all the camps of the Gaza Strip. The curfew in the Gaza Strip camps was extended for long periods, coinciding with a total siege and designation of the camps as closed military zones.

The areas in which a curfew was imposed included the cities of Nablus, Tulkarm, Qalqilyah, Ramallah and Rafah, the towns of Salfit, Qabatiyah and Anabta, the villages of Sa'ir, Dayr Ammar, Bayt Ur Al-Tahta, Idna, Bani Na'im and Bani Suhaylah, the camps of Tulkarm, Balata, Askar, Ayn Bayt al-Ma, Al-Azzah, Am'ari, Jalazone, Arroub, Far'a and Dheisheh and all the camps in the Gaza Strip.

Reports from the occupied Arab territories indicated that the occupation soldiers had in their possession forms containing orders for the imposition of curfews and the military closure of zones and that they were filling in these forms with the names of cities and zones where they wished to impose a curfew if they suspected that protests or demonstrations were likely to take place there or if foreign journalists were in the area.

(c) *Travel restrictions*

The occupation authorities prohibited travel by any residents of certain areas, including the village of Idna, the city of Bethlehem and the city of Nablus, without giving any reasons. Occupation soldiers also turned back all Gaza Strip residents from the Rafah crossing-point and the King Hussein Bridge, telling them that they would be prevented from travelling for an unspecified period. The authorities also prevented Palestinian students attending courses at Jordanian universities from returning to their universities after the vacation, holding them up for a week before they could rejoin their classes.

3. *Expulsions*

The Israeli authorities issued military orders for the expulsion of nine citizens from the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, of whom four were expelled on 13 January. The four were Jibril al-Rajub, from Hebron, employed as an editor by a literary magazine; Jamal Jabbarah, from Qalqilyah, employed as a dental technician; Bashir Ahmad al-Khayri, a lawyer from Ramallah; and Husam Khadr, from the Balata camp. Neither relatives nor lawyers were informed when the four were expelled to the security zone in southern Lebanon.

4. *Demolition of houses*

The Israeli occupation authorities demolished 22 Arab houses, mostly on the grounds that they lacked the necessary permits and that it was necessary to widen the streets in order to facilitate the passage of motorized units of the Israeli army. The names of the Arab citizens whose families suffered as a result of the demolition of their houses, and of the places where such demolition took place, are: Daud Ali Husain, at Umm Tubar/Arab al-Ta'amirah; Ali Abu Zur, at Balata camp; Ali Sulayman Abu Iyash, at Bayt Immar (Hebron); Al-Hajj Ahmad Sultan, at Al-Buwayrah; Misbah Hamdan al-Hawadin, at Al-Zahiriyyah (Hebron); Sami Tim, at Al-Zahiriyyah (Hebron); Hasan Mahmud al-Qaysiyyah, at Al-Zahiriyyah (Hebron); and Hasan al-Abiyyat, at Kisan (Bethlehem).

The authorities also demolished 12 houses in the Nuseirat Palestinian refugee camp, alleging that they needed to facilitate the passage of motorized units of the Israeli army to all parts of the camp. Israeli bulldozers rammed two other houses in the Nuseirat camp, destroying essential parts of the two homes and rendering them unfit for habitation.

5. *Martyrs*

Twenty-seven male and female citizens were killed by bullets fired at them by occupation soldiers and Jewish settlers in the occupied Arab territories or as a result of asphyxiation due to the heavy use of tear-gas canisters during the month by soldiers of the Israeli army. The soldiers often fired between five and seven such canisters in the narrow alley-ways of the camps and inside Arab houses, causing people to die of asphyxiation. Press sources in the occupied Arab territories indicated that a number of elderly people afflicted with heart and respiratory conditions died as a result of ailments directly caused by air pollution and, in particular, the deteriorating sanitary conditions in the camps.

6. *Wounded*

The number of Palestinians hurt and injured during the month was estimated at approximately 1,000, most of whom suffered fractures as a result of application of the "breaking bones" policy. A number of others were wounded by live ammunition or rubber bullets.

The number of male and female citizens in the Gaza Strip alone who suffered fractures as a result of beatings with truncheons, according to the statements of Arab hospital officials published in the newspaper *Al-Quds* on 29 January, was estimated at approximately 600. Meanwhile, officers of the Israeli army insisted that the number of those who had suffered fractures in Gaza was 323. The falseness of the Israeli claims was demonstrated in a report presented by two Israeli Knesset members, which included a statement that on 18 January 57 people in the Jabalia camp alone required treatment after having been beaten with truncheons and that most of them required one or more plaster casts. On the next day, 43 more citizens were wounded in the same camp. In the Nuseirat camp, more than 32 people required treatment for fractures on 18 and 19 January. The report stated that during those two days there were about 200 people who suffered fractures as a result of application of the "beating and breaking" policy and that most of the beating incidents occurred after careful prior planning, without being preceded by any provocative acts on the part of the Arabs.

7. *Closure of commercial premises*

The Israeli authorities closed four brick-making businesses in the Dheisheh camp, alleging that their stones had been used in demonstrations. They also closed seven stores in the city of Jericho and five in the city of Nablus. In the city of Ramallah they closed six stores and in Bethlehem eight. The Israeli army also used an oxy-acetylene welder to close stores in various areas.

8. *Closure of schools and universities*

In the context of Israel's policy of denying education to citizens, the authorities issued orders for the closure of a number of schools, colleges and universities. The institutions closed included the following: the Islamic University (Gaza), for 10 days; Palestine Religious Institute (Gaza), for 11 days; Al-Rawdah College (Nablus), for 5 days; Bir Zeit University, for 1 month; Hebron University (Hebron), for 5 days; Hebron Engineering College (Hebron), for 8 days; Polytechnic Institute (Hebron), for an unspecified period; and Al-Zahra Girls' School (Gaza), until further notice.

DOCUMENT S/19538

Letter dated 24 February 1988 from the representative of Chad to the President of the Security Council

[*Original: French*]
[*25 February 1988*]

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the contents of message No. 170/MAE/DG/0012/APOI of 23 February 1988 addressed to you by Mr. Gouara Lassou, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Chad.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this message distributed as a document of the Security Council and placed in the file on the Chad-Libya question, with which the Council remains seized.

(*Signed*) El-Hadj Mahamat Ali ADOUM
Permanent Representative of Chad to the United Nations

MESSAGE DATED 23 FEBRUARY 1988 FROM THE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF CHAD ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

[*Original: English and French*]

Acting in defiance of the relevant resolutions and decisions of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and, specifically, in flagrant violation of paragraph 2 of point 5 of the communiqué of the meeting of the OAU Ad Hoc Committee on the Chad-Libya dispute held at Lusaka on 23 September 1987, which called upon the two parties

> "to maintain and consolidate the cease-fire at all levels while refraining from any act that might aggravate the situation in the field, such as overflight of airspace, ground attacks, troop concentration, recruitment of foreign troops or import of weapons, and to refrain from any act that might internationalize the conflict",

the Libyan Government is reinforcing its military capacity through massive recruitment of mercenaries of all nationalities, daily violating Chadian airspace and carrying out incursions into the national territory.

Moreover, on 14 January 1988 the Libyan régime concluded an arms-purchase contract with the Brazilian corporation Bernadini S.A., of São Paulo, as is confirmed by the periodical *Executive Alert Service* in its issue of 27 January 1988:

> "New trade deal between Brazil and Libya: after a nearly five-year break between the two countries, Brazil and Libya are on the verge of closing a $US 2 billion trade deal, largely consisting of tanks and missiles for Libya, in exchange for oil for Brazil. A mission of 12 Libyan colonels headed by an aide to Qaddafi was in Brazil 22 January to make the final arrangements. Brazil broke off arms sales to Libya after Libyan planes flying weapons to Nicaragua were caught on Brazilian soil in 1983. The Brazilian Foreign Ministry is presently attempting to minimize the scandal around the Libyan deal."

These actions have now confirmed once again the belligerent attitude of the Libyan Government, its annexationist ambitions *vis-à-vis* Chad and its bad faith in the search for a peaceful solution to the conflict, as called for by the Security Council in its statement of 6 April 1983 [*S/15688*].

(*Signed*) Gouara LASSOU
Minister for Foreign Affairs of Chad

DOCUMENT S/19539*

Letter dated 25 February 1988 from the representative of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to the Secretary-General

[Original: French]
[25 February 1988]

Further to my earlier letters relating to armed incidents along the Lao-Thai frontier in the region of Nabonoi commune, Botène district, Sayaboury province, I have the honour to enclose herewith the text of the unofficial translation from the Lao language of the joint press release issued by the Lao and Thai military delegations on 24 February 1988 in Vientiane.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex distributed as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Alounkeo KITTIKHOUN
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission
of the Lao People's Democratic Republic
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Joint press release issued by the Lao military delegation and the Thai military delegation in Vientiane on 24 February 1988

In accordance with the spirit of friendship and the fraternal links between the Lao and Thai soldiers, the Thai military delegation, under the leadership of General Chavalit Yongchaiyudh, Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, paid a visit to Vientiane on 23 and 24 February 1988 at the invitation of General Sisavath Keobounphanh, Supreme Chief of Staff of the Lao People's Army. The Thai military delegation was given a warm welcome in an excellent atmosphere of understanding and sincere friendship.

While in the Lao People's Democratic Republic, General Chavalit Yongchaiyudh and the Thai military delegation were accorded an audience with Mr. Phoumi Vongvichith, interim President of the Lao People's Democratic Republic. The guests and the host held a cordial discussion which was beneficial to relations between the two countries.

The two military delegations of the two parties which took part in the consultation consisted of the following:

Thai military delegation: General Chavalit Yongchaiyudh, General Sunthorn Kongsomphong, General Vanchai Ruangtrakul, General Charouay Vongsayarn, General Tat Akkanibut, Major-General Somkuan Suwan, Major-General Panya Singsakda, Major-General Charan Kulavanit, Brigadier-General Charn Bunpraseut, and Colonel Amornrat Chintakanol.

Lao military delegation: General Sisavath Keobounphanh, Brigadier-General Thonglay Kommasith, Mr. Thongloun Sisoulith, Brigadier-General Somlak Thammavong, Brigadier-General Bounnième Khamouane, Brigadier-General Savay Sayasena, Colonel Sathiane Kesonesi, and Colonel Met Sipaseuth.

The two parties congratulated each other on the success achieved in the implementation of the cease-fire agreement and the reciprocal withdrawal of armed forces in the region covering the provinces of Phitsanoulok and Sayaboury. The two delegations will report on the progress of these operations to their respective Governments.

The two parties expressed their satisfaction with regard to the work of the joint military co-ordination commission, which has successfully discharged its task in the field up to now and will continue its mission pursuant to the cease-fire agreement until the successful conclusion of the next round of negotiations at the governmental level between the two parties to settle the frontier problem in this region. To this end, the military delegations of the two parties will work together in order to promote the fraternal relations and well-being of the Lao and Thai peoples.

On the basis of the existing friendship and sincerity, the Lao party handed over the two Thai pilots to the Thai party. The head of the Thai military delegation expressed his profound gratitude to the Lao military delegation and will respond with sincerity to that friendly gesture.

The Thai military delegation reiterates its sincere thanks to the Lao military delegation and the Lao people for the warm welcome extended to it.

The two parties will continue to conduct exchange visits on this issue.

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/167-S/19539.

DOCUMENT S/19540*

Letter dated 25 February 1988 from the representative of China to the Secretary-General

[Original: Chinese/English]
[25 February 1988]

I have the honour to enclose herewith the text of the statement made by the spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China, issued on 22 February 1988.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and the full text of the attached statement circulated as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) LI Luye
Permanent Representative
of the People's Republic of China
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Statement by the spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China, issued on 22 February 1988

On 20 February, the spokesman of the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry issued a statement [*S/19523, annex*] in which brazen charges were made against China for sending naval vessels to the Nansha Islands and their adjacent waters to carry out such normal activities as survey, study and patrol. He demanded that China withdraw its naval vessels, declaring that China "would have to accept full responsibility for any consequences stemming therefrom".

The Nansha Islands, like the Xisha, Dongsha and Zhongsha Islands, have always been Chinese territory, and China has indisputable sovereignty over these islands and their adjacent waters. This just position of the Chinese Government is known to all. It is entirely within China's sovereignty for the Chinese side to send naval vessels and ships to some islands of the Nansha Islands and their adjacent waters for survey, study and routine patrol, in which the Vietnamese authorities have no right to interfere. It should be pointed out that it is the Vietnamese authorities that have

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/168-S/19540.

illegally invaded and occupied some islands and atolls of China's Nansha Islands. The Vietnamese side must withdraw from these islands and atolls. If the Vietnamese side obstructs China's legitimate activities in the above-mentioned areas in disregard of the Chinese Government's consistent position, it must take full responsibility for all the consequences arising therefrom.

DOCUMENT S/19541*

Letter dated 25 February 1988 from the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the Secretary-General

[Original: English]
[25 February 1988]

I have the honour to refer to the letter dated 12 February 1988 addressed to you by the Permanent Representative of Argentina [*S/19500*] concerning the planned exercise in the Falkland Islands in March 1988.

I wish to emphasize that this is a routine reinforcement exercise. We made clear as long ago as 1982 that periodic exercises would be required.

Our reinforcement capability has enabled us to reduce our garrison in the Falklands. This is a contribution to a lowering of tension in the region.

The British Government remains committed to restoring more normal relations with Argentina, while at the same time standing by its commitments to the Falkland Islanders.

I should be grateful if this letter could be given the same distribution as the letter from the Permanent Representative of Argentina.

(*Signed*) Crispin TICKELL
Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/169-S/19541.

DOCUMENT S/19542

Letter dated 24 February 1988 from the representative of Algeria to the President of the Security Council

[Original: English]
[26 February 1988]

I have the honour to transmit herewith two letters dated 22 February 1988 addressed to you by Mr. Zehdi Labib Terzi, Permanent Observer of the Palestine Liberation Organization to the United Nations.

I kindly request that you circulate these letters as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Hocine DJOUDI
Permanent Representative of Algeria to the United Nations

ANNEX I

Letter dated 22 February 1988 from the observer of the Palestine Liberation Organization to the President of the Security Council

I am asked by Yasser Arafat, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization, to bring the following to your urgent attention. On 16 February 1988, *The New York Times* reported that on 5 February 1988 four Palestinian youths had been buried alive by Israeli occupation soldiers, in what the Israeli Government was calling an isolated incident. We would like to inform you that on 9 February, 30 year-old Yaseen Abdul Qader Milhem, from Halhoul, Hebron, was arrested by Israeli occupation soldiers, who tried to bury him alive. When they failed to do so, they brutally beat him, resulting in his hospitalization at the Aliya Hospital in Hebron. On 20 February two Palestinian youths from Khan Yunis were found buried alive. Seventeen year-old Saleh Mousa Hamad and 18 year-old Adel Masoud have been hospitalized in serious condition, and the International Committee of the Red Cross has been asked to visit them in hospital.

The recurrence of this Nazi-like practice of burying people alive proves without doubt that the earlier incident of burying Palestinians alive was not an isolated incident but a new phase in Israel's "iron-fist" policy, along with the use of live ammunitions, rubber bullets and tear-gas and the breaking of bones and the smashing of skulls.

ANNEX II

Letter dated 22 February 1988 from the observer of the Palestine Liberation Organization to the President of the Security Council

I am asked by Yasser Arafat, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization, to bring the enclosed UNRWA Hospital Referral No. 988405 to your immediate attention.[12]

The Referral is for a 3 month-old baby girl, Rana Yussef Adwan of Rafah, in the Israeli occupation Gaza Strip. The Referral notes that Rana died as a result of respiratory damage caused by the use of tear-gas.

DOCUMENT S/19543*

Letter dated 25 February 1988 from the representative of the Federal Republic of Germany to the Secretary-General

[Original: English]
[26 February 1988]

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the declaration issued at Bonn on 25 February 1988 by the 12 Governments of the States members of the European Community, of which the Federal Republic of Germany is the current President, concerning the prohibition by the South African Government of South African organizations peacefully opposed to *apartheid* from engaging in political activities.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Alexander COUNT YORK
Permanent Representative of the Federal Republic of Germany to the United Nations

ANNEX

Declaration by the 12 States members of the European Community

The Twelve vigorously condemn the new manifestation of political suppression represented by the prohibition by the South African Government of South African organizations peacefully opposed to *apartheid* from engaging in political activities. This prohibition will considerably exacerbate the tension within South Africa, leading to further confrontation and domestic polarization.

The Twelve urge the South African Government most strongly to repeal the imposed measures without delay. They are convinced that a constructive national dialogue with all political groups, across the lines of colour, politics and religion, is essential in order to ensure a peaceful future for the country. They reiterate their commitment to political action aimed at promoting the achievement of this objective.

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/171-S/19543.

DOCUMENT S/19544*

Letter dated 25 February 1988 from the representative of Japan to the Secretary-General

[Original: English]
[26 February 1988]

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a statement issued on 25 February 1988 by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, Mr. Sousuke Uno, on orders issued by the Government of South Africa prohibiting or otherwise restricting the activities of anti-*apartheid* organizations.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have this text circulated as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Hideo KAGAMI
Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations

ANNEX

Statement issued on 25 February 1988 by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan

Concerning the orders issued by the Government of South Africa on 24 February to prohibit or restrict the activities of anti-*apartheid* organizations, the Government of Japan wishes to express to the South African Government its great regret over the decision to impose these curbs, ignoring the repeated demands by Japan and the international community that *apartheid* be abolished.

The Government of Japan once again urges the Government of South Africa to rescind these orders immediately and decide sincerely to work to achieve a peaceful solution to the issues confronting it through dialogue.

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/173-S/19544.

DOCUMENT S/19545*

Letter dated 26 February 1988 from the representative of Thailand to the Secretary-General

[Original: English]
[26 February 1988]

With reference to the earlier letters from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Thailand to the United Nations addressed to you concerning the situation along the Thai-Lao border in the vicinity of Romklao village, Chart Trakarn district, Phitsanulok province, and upon the instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the translation of the message dated 24 February 1988 from General Prem Tinsulanonda, Prime Minister of Thailand, to Mr. Kaysone Phomvihane, Prime Minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

In this connection, I have further the honour to request that this letter and its annex be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Nitya PIBULSONGGRAM
Permanent Representative of Thailand to the United Nations

ANNEX

Message dated 24 February 1988 from the Prime Minister of Thailand to the Prime Minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic

With reference to the joint press statement between the Thai-Lao military delegations issued in Bangkok on 17 February 1988 on the cease-fire, the disengagement of respective troops and the opening of political negotiations, I wish to highly commend the military delegations of both sides for having reached a brotherly compromise and success which constructively contribute to the peace of our two countries. The cease-fire and the disengagement of troops have now been smoothly and successfully carried out in a brotherly spirit of co-operation between Thailand and Laos.

In this regard, I wish to inform you that the Royal Thai Government has accepted the recommendation of the Thai-Lao military delegations to begin political negotiations for the purpose of finding a peaceful and political solution to the boundary problem in the area based on international law and the provisions of the Franco-Siamese treaty of 1907 and relevant maps.

In order to proceed accordingly without delay, I wish to extend an invitation to you to send a delegation to negotiate with the Thai side in Bangkok in our efforts to find a durable solution to this problem between both countries. The negotiations could begin with talks between the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of both countries with a view to establishing the framework and format of an agreement. From there the next step would be negotiations between officials of both sides who would put forward their recommendations to their respective Governments. Alternatively, the negotiations could begin right away between officials of both sides. I, therefore, wish to propose that the meeting commence on 29 February in Bangkok. The date of subsequent meetings shall be decided by both delegations. After both Governments have given their approval, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Thailand shall be designated to sign the agreement in Vientiane with the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Laos.

General Prem TINSULANONDA
Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/174-S/19545.

DOCUMENT S/19546*

Letter dated 26 February 1988 from the representative of Afghanistan to the Secretary-General

[Original: English]
[26 February 1988]

I have the honour to transmit to you a statement of the spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Afghanistan.

I have further the honour to request the circulation of this statement as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Shah Mohammad DOST
Permanent Representative of Afghanistan to the United Nations

ANNEX

Statement dated 25 February 1988 of the spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Afghanistan

Few days are left before the Geneva talks on the solution of the situation around Afghanistan. A great deal of preparatory work has been accomplished to co-ordinate the stands of the sides involved in the talks. A special role has been played in this regard by Diego Cordovez, personal envoy of the United Nations Secretary-General. Preparation of the documents that cover all the aspects of a political solution is almost finalized. The people of Afghanistan, who are fed up with years-long war and fratricide, are impatiently waiting for successful conclusion of the Geneva process.

This process will not only improve the situation in the region but will help improve the international climate as well. It will provide valuable experience for the solution of other regional conflicts as well.

But certain circles in some countries, pursuing the old way of thinking of confrontation, are still showing unwillingness to search for a peaceful means to settle complicated international issues. They place their selfish interests higher than that of the peace and security of other States and peoples. The strivings of Pakistan's leadership in this phase, before the commencement of talks, to erect artificial obstacles in order to hinder reaching a final accord and especially to link the signature of the Geneva accords to the formation of a transitional Government in Afghanistan could not be explained otherwise.

The feverish efforts of opposition extremist leaders stationed in Peshawar to form a so-called transitional Government serve this dirty aim. It is clear to everybody that there is only one legal Government in Afghanistan, which has been recognized officially by more than 80 countries of the world and has membership in the United Nations, the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and many international organizations.

While the people of Afghanistan support the national reconciliation policy and the efforts of the leadership of their country, the question arises of who the transitional Government, which is to be formed on the soil of Pakistan,

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/175-S/19546.

would represent. Millions of Afghans, the peoples of neighbouring countries and peace-loving mankind are waiting for the success of Geneva talks.

As far as national reconciliation and the formation of a coalition Government are concerned, the leadership of Afghanistan has declared time and again that it is solely a domestic affair of the people of Afghanistan. Only we Afghans, not any foreign power, have the right to determine our destiny, including the structure of a State which will be acceptable to all. The Afghan side is exerting all efforts for normalization of the situation in conformity with the 8 February statement [*S/19494, annex*] of esteemed Najibullah, President of Afghanistan.

DOCUMENT S/19547*

Letter dated 26 February 1988 from the representative of Bahrain to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Arabic/English*]
[*26 February 1988*]

In my capacity as Chairman of the Group of Arab States for the month of February 1988, I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 26 February 1988 addressed to you by Mr. Zehdi Labib Terzi, Permanent Observer of the Palestine Liberation Organization to the United Nations.

I should be grateful if you would kindly arrange for the text of this letter and its annex to be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Karim Ebrahim AL-SHAKAR
Permanent Representative of Bahrain
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Letter dated 26 February 1988 from the observer of the Palestine Liberation Organization to the Secretary-General

I am asked by Yasser Arafat, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization, to bring the following to your attention.

The uprising of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territories against the prolonged Israeli occupation has resulted in exposing the true nature of Israel's occupation. Israel has increased its military force and stranglehold over the occupied Palestinian territories, and there has been an upsurge in atrocities by its soldiers and Zionist colonial settlers. Palestinians of all ages, including toddlers, have been shot with live ammunition as well as with lethal rubber bullets. Some have been clubbed to death; others have had their bones broken in a vengeful manner. Palestinians have choked to death on tear-gas or died as a result of respiratory failure, and pregnant women have aborted. The forces of occupation have even buried Palestinians alive. Condemnation of these atrocities by the international community is not sufficient; our people in the occupied Palestinian territories are struggling for a more concrete response, namely, the immediate end of the occupation of their land by Israel.

We are enclosing a list of 131 Palestinians killed and murdered by the Israeli occupation forces and by Zionist colonial settlers.[13] We would also mention that there are hundreds of others wounded.

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/176-S/19547.

DOCUMENT S/19548

Letter dated 28 February 1988 from the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*29 February 1988*]

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that the Iraqi régime has resumed its criminal policy of attacking civilian population centres and massacring innocent civilians. On 27 February 1988, intruding Iraqi planes attacked civilian quarters in Tehran and Saghez, resulting in the martyrdom of 1 and 21 and injury to 17 and 170, respectively. Further details of this cowardly act of barbarism will be provided in due course.

Receiving encouragement from certain well-known quarters in the international community, the Iraqi régime has threatened to escalate its criminal behaviour by resuming the war of the cities. In this context, it is fully expected that the international community, particularly the Security Council and the Secretary-General of the United Nations, will condemn this latest manifestation of Iraqi crimes against humanity and will take effective and immediate measures to prevent their escalation. It is evident that in the absence of meaningful punitive and preventive measures on the part of the international community, the Islamic Republic of Iran will have no alternative but to take necessary measures in exercise of its legitimate right of self-defence.

It would be highly appreciated if this letter were circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mahmoud Sadat MADARSHAHI
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission
of the Islamic Republic of Iran
to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19549* **

Letter dated 26 February 1988 from the representative of Spain to the Secretary-General

[Original: Spanish]
[29 February 1988]

I have the honour to convey to you a communiqué concerning the situation in the Middle East, which was adopted unanimously by the Congress of Deputies of Spain.

I request you to have this letter circulated as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Francisco VILLAR
Permanent Representative of Spain
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Communiqué adopted by the Congress of Deputies of Spain

The Congress of Deputies:

EXPRESSES its profound concern at the violent confrontations which have been occurring in the territories of Gaza, the West Bank and East Jerusalem under Israeli occupation;

DEPLORES the loss of human life and the grave violations of the individual and collective rights of the populations in those regions;

RECALLS that the Government of Israel, as the occupying Power, is obliged to abide strictly by the Fourth Geneva Convention, of 12 August 1949,[1] with regard to the protection and freedom of the populations in occupied territories, an obligation which has been highlighted recently by the international community in resolutions 605 (1987), 607 (1988) and 608 (1988) of the United Nations Security Council.

APPEALS to all the parties involved to act with moderation and thus to avoid aggravating the situation;

EXPRESSES its conviction that a just, comprehensive and lasting peace in the Middle East should be based on the observance by all of United Nations resolutions in their totality, in particular the right of all States in the region to existence within secure and internationally recognized boundaries, together with the recognition of the national rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to self-determination;

CONSIDERS the proposal for the convening of an international conference on the Middle East under the auspices of the United Nations as the only approach in the current circumstances which has the potential for bringing about a statement of the conflict afflicting the peoples of the region;

URGES the Government to seek to promote, both at the bilateral level and within the framework of the European Community, any initiative which it regards as conducive to the convening of such an international peace conference on the Middle East, with the participation of all the parties directly involved and concerned, as promptly as possible;

REQUESTS the Government to transmit this statement to the Governments and bodies concerned and affected.

* Incorporating document S/19549/Corr.1 of 1 March 1988.
** Circulated under the double symbol A/43/177-S/19549.

DOCUMENT S/19550

Letter dated 29 February 1988 from the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Secretary-General

[Original: English]
[29 February 1988]

I have the honour to enclose herewith the text of the letter of Mr. Ali Akbar Velayati, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

It would be highly appreciated if this letter and its annex were circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mahmoud Sadat MADARSHAHI
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission
of the Islamic Republic of Iran
to the United Nations

LETTER DATED 29 FEBRUARY 1988 FROM THE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

As you are aware, the aggressor régime of Iraq, in continuation of its savage aggression against non-military and residential cities of the Islamic Republic of Iran and in violation of all rules and norms of international law, particulary the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949[1] and the moratorium of 12 June 1984, has during the past few days intensified its inhumane attacks against the defenceless cities of the Islamic Republic of Iran, causing the martyrdom and injury of many innocent civilians.

The aggressor régime of Iraq, during its attacks and acts of aggression on 27 February 1988, in addition to violating the airspaces of the provinces of Bakhtaran, Lorestan, Ilam and West Azarbaijan, Tehran, Saqqez, Hamadan and Dezful, also bombarded non-military and residental centres, causing the martyrdom and injury of 209 civilians.

The Islamic Republic of Iran, while informing you of the above details, invites the urgent attention of the United Nations to the intensified acts of aggression by the Iraqi régime against the defenceless Iranian cities, acts of aggression which are taking place with the support and encouragement of the United States in its attempt to compensate for its losses in the Persian Gulf. It is hereby requested that you use your good offices as the Secretary-General of the United Nations to prevent further occurrence and intensification of Iraqi savagery against Iranian cities.

In conclusion, I deem it necessary to emphasize the respect and regard of the Islamic Republic of Iran for the international principles and regulations of the United Nations. Any retalitory action by the Islamic Republic of Iran has only been intended to prevent further attacks by Iraq against Iranian civilian centres as well as other Iraqi acts of savagery. Should the United Nations fail to take any immediate measures to halt the continuation and intensification of these acts of aggression by the Iraqi régime, the Islamic Republic of Iran will have no option, in the face of the

repeated demands of the families of the martyred and the injured, other than further retalitory attacks against economic, industrial and military centres in Iraq.

There remains no doubt that the responsibility for the consequences of such circumstances, including any endangerment of the peace and security of the region and the world, will lie with the Iraqi régime and its supporter, the United States.

Ali Akbar VELAYATI
Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Islamic Republic of Iran

DOCUMENT S/19551

Letter dated 29 February 1988 from the representative of Iraq to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Arabic*]
[*29 February 1988*]

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to draw to your attention the Iranian régime's criminal conduct, which the Government of my country has consistently denounced throughout the years of a war imposed by a bellicose and aggressive régime bent on sowing death and desolation. As we have said on many occasions, and the facts bear us out, the Iranian régime has always resorted to urban warfare in order to divert attention from its rejection of any peaceful settlement and in order to justify its persistence in pursuing its war of aggression.

You will recall the many crimes which the criminal Iranian régime has perpetrated against Iraqi civilians over the past eight years, and that it does not spare, as was evident last year, either schoolchildren or those in hospital. On all those occasions, Iraq kept reaffirming a fundamental truth which postulates the criminal intentions of the Tehran régime, as evidenced by its mendacious allegations that it is simply taking measures of reprisal against military and economic targets, when it in fact uses arms whose design will not allow them to distinguish between different targets.

While it has taken the international community almost seven months to persuade the expansionist Iranian régime to accept a peaceful settlement which is balanced and comprehensive, in accordance with binding Security Council resolution 598 (1987), this criminal régime, which persists in flouting all the laws and acting as an enemy of mankind by adamantly pursuing the war and sowing death and desolation, has again resorted to urban warfare, citing the traditional pretexts in order to prevent the international community from drawing the necessary conclusions from its rejection of the Security Council resolution.

On 27 February 1988, the Iraqi air force carried out raids against oil refineries in the environs of Tehran. The military information service of the Iranian régime yesterday issued a communiqué in which it threatened to bombard the military and economic installations at Baghdad and Basra. In this regard, an Iraqi military spokesman firmly and clearly warned the Iranian régime that, if it carried out its threat, which, as was evident, was really aimed at purely residental towns and centres, there would be an instant reprisal. Nevertheless, from yesterday until this afternoon, the forces of the criminal Tehran régime fired artillery shells and rockets at the cities of Basra, Zubayr, Qurnah, Khanaqin and Badrah. These blind attacks killed and wounded many civilians, including women and children, and caused material damage. Now that the Iranian régime has again confirmed its bellicose intentions and its desire to resume urban warfare, thereby flouting the will of the international community to bring about a comprehensive and equitable settlement in implementation of Security Council resolution 598 (1987)—a resolution which was received favourably by Iraq, which has shown itself prepared to abide by it scrupulously in order to establish a comprehensive peace and put an end to the sufferings resulting from the war—we are forced to retaliate firmly against the criminal assassins in Iran by resorting to all appropriate means in order to deal with these deliberate crimes.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ismat KITTANI
Permanent Representative of Iraq
to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19552*

Letter dated 26 February 1988 from the representative of the Federal Republic of Germany to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English/French*]
[*29 February 1988*]

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of the declaration on Afghanistan made by the 12 States members of the European Community at Bonn on 25 February 1988.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Alexander COUNT YORK
Permanent Representative of
the Federal Republic of Germany
to the United Nations

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/178-S/19552.

ANNEX

Declaration on Afghanistan made at Bonn on 25 February 1988 by the 12 States members of the European Community

The Twelve continue to follow closely political and diplomatic developments in the Afghan question, which remains a major source of international tension.

They note with interest General Secretary Gorbachev's statement of 8 February 1988 announcing the Soviet Union's readiness to withdraw its troops from Afghanistan starting on 15 May, according to a fixed timetable not exceeding 10 months. The Twelve note that the Soviet Union makes the withdrawal of its troops dependent on the formal conclusion of an agreement at Geneva.

The Twelve refer in this connection to the declaration by the European Council of 5 December 1987 on Afghanistan [*S/19323, annex*] and reiterate their wish to see the total and irrevocable withdrawal of Soviet troops carried out in the course of 1988.

On the eve of a new round of proximity talks at Geneva, they renew their support for the efforts of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and his personal representative to pave the way for a settlement. They pay tribute to the positive and responsible attitude by Pakistan for many years now.

The Twelve stress that in order to establish a lasting peace and bring an end to the ordeal of the Afghan people, it is necessary to re-establish the independence and non-alignment of Afghanistan and enable the refugees to return to their country in safety and dignity.

They consider that it is of the utmost importance that all parties concerned, including the resistance, are involved in the peace process without delay. The establishment by the Afghans themselves of a transitional Government, whose independence could not be called into question, is clearly the key to this.

The Twelve remain willing, for their part, to contribute constructively to such a settlement and, when the time comes, to participate in international aid for Afghanistan.

DOCUMENT S/19553

Letter dated 29 February 1988 from the representative of Iraq to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Arabic*]
[*29 February 1988*]

On instructions from my Government, and further to my many previous letters concerning the Iranian régime's persistence in bombarding purely residential districts in Iraq, I have the honour to inform you that on 20, 22, 26, 27 and 28 February 1988 the forces of the Iranian régime carried out the acts of aggression listed in the annex.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as an official document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ismat KITTANI
Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations

ANNEX

Iranian bombardment

Time	*Region*	*Number of shells*	*Casualties*
20 February			
1530 to 1730	Sulaymaniyah governorate: Dukan	17	2 wounded, including a woman
22 February			
1430 to 1600	Sulaymaniyah governorate: Dukan Assofla	7	
26 February			
0915 to 1200	Sulaymaniyah governorate: Dukan	9	
1230 to 1330	Dohuk governorate: Souheil	17	8 children and 1 woman dead; 20 wounded, including 6 children and 9 women; 3 houses and 1 private vehicle damaged
2225 to 2245	Sulaymaniyah governorate: Beymalik residential complex, Qala Diza	4	3 dead, including a child; 4 houses damaged
27 February			
1300 to 1315	Basra governorate: Qurna	10	2 dead, including a child; 2 wounded, including a woman; 11 houses damaged
0835 to 1440	Sulaymaniyah governorate: Khurmal and Sirwan		

Time	*Region*	*Number of shells*	*Casualties*
28 February			
0750 to 1700	Basra governorate: Basra centre: Maaqal; Old Basra; Jazaïr; Sa'diya; Corniche; Harithah; Zubayr district	103	5 dead; 8 wounded, including a woman; 5 private vehicles, 1 boys' school (Maaqal) and 2 houses damaged
0645 to 0735	Wasit governorate: Badrah	11	
0500 to 1330	Khanaqin district	42	2 dead; 14 wounded, including 2 women; 14 shops and 4 houses damaged
1735 to 2030	Basra governorate: Jazaïr; Sa'diya; Old Basra; Maaqal; Manawi Bacha; Asaadi Dakir; Barbariya	70	7 wounded, including 3 children and a woman; 3 houses and 2 shops damaged
1735 to 2030	Diyala governorate: Diyala; Khanaqin	22	2 wounded; 2 houses and a café damaged
1650 to 2315	Basra governorate: Attawissah; Assaï Abassiah; Jazaïr; Alachar; Maaqal; Kiblan; Mutihah; Qurna	148	5 dead, including a woman and a child; 21 wounded, including 3 women; 1 house damaged; a house and 2 private vehicles set on fire
2030 to 2045	Qala Diza district	6	Several houses damaged
2200 to 2245	Khanaqin district	11	
2205 to 2230	Badrah district	7	

DOCUMENT S/19554

Letter dated 29 February 1988 from the representative of Iraq to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Arabic*]
[*29 February 1988*]

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that the forces of the bellicose and expansionist Iranian régime, which started the war and is bent on continuing it, fired two ground-to ground missiles at the city of Baghdad at 0245 hours and 0305 hours on 29 February 1988. The missiles hit residential areas, killing and wounding a number of people, including women and children, and destroying or damaging houses, shops and private vehicles.

Those dastardly crimes will not deter our people from continuing their heroic defence of their land and its sovereignty. I should like, at this juncture, to repeat what I wrote in my letter dated 29 February 1988 [*S/19551*] concerning our legitimate right to defend ourselves and to inflict a lesson on the criminal aggressors: it is for the international community to shoulder its responsibilities and to oppose firmly the barbarous Iranian régime, whose only vocation is war and destruction. It is therefore more necessary than ever for the Security Council to consider carefully the possibility of punitive action against the Iranian régime for its refusal to abide by the will of the international community to reach a settlement based on Security Council resolution 598 (1987) and for its persistence in pursuing the aggression.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ismat KITTANI
Permanent Representative of Iraq
to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19555*

Letter dated 29 February 1988 from the representative of Turkey to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*1 March 1988*]

I have the honour to attach herewith a letter dated 29 February 1988 addressed to you by Mr. Özer Koray, representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus.

I should be grateful if this letter were circulated as a document of the forty-second session of the General Assembly, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ilter TÜRKMEN
Permanent Representative of Turkey
to the United Nations

* Circulated under the double symbol A/42/926-S/19555.

ANNEX

Letter dated 29 February 1988 from Mr. Özer Koray to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose herewith the text of a statement issued by Rauf R. Denktaş, President of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, after the negative response of the new Greek Cypriot leader, Mr. George Vassiliou, towards his invitation to meet him at the Ledra Palace.

I should be grateful if this letter and its enclosure were circulated as a document of the forty-second session of the General-Assembly and of the Security Council.

ENCLOSURE

Statement of Mr. Rauf R. Denktaş dated 26 February 1988
Political Equality Basis of Cyprus Settlement

I did not wish to give immediate answer to Mr. Vassiliou's statement, but I would like to make briefly the following points.

I would advise him to look around when making his affirmation as the President of the Greek Cypriot people. He will see that there is not a single Turkish Cypriot around him. If he goes through the list of electors he will not see a single Turkish Cypriot on it.

He should recall the sufferings of the Turkish people in the hands of Greek Cypriots from 1963 to 1974.

Even under the 1960 Constitution, the President of the Republic (elected by the Greek Cypriots) had to act jointly with the Vice-President (elected by the Turkish Cypriots) so as to be regarded as legitimate and as the lawful head of the executive. Therefore, the rights, duties and responsibilities of the executive were to be shared between the President and the Vice-President.

In 1963, the Greek Cypriots tore up and threw this Constitution into the dustbin. They ousted the Turkish Cypriot people from the partnership State. Mr. Vassiliou should read the Akritas Plan [*see S/12722, annex*] and evaluate the new situation created by the 1975 population exchange agreement [*see S/11789, annex*], which laid the foundation of the 1977 Denktaş-Makarios summit accord [*see S/12323, para. 5*].

He should also take into account the fact that the United Nations Secretary-General's initiatives are aimed at establishing a legitimate bizonal federal state between the two peoples.

He should bear in mind that the stumbling block to a settlement in Cyprus is the false title of "the Republic" or "Government of Cyprus", which they have usurped for 24 years.

He had better know that he will not be able to do away with the "Turkish Cypriot" factor, something which his predecessors have failed to achieve for 24 years. We advise him not to destroy, from the beginning, the bridges of good will.

Political equality is the basis of a federal settlement. The existence of two equal peoples in Cyprus is an undeniable fact. My invitation is to meet him on equal terms.

We hope that Mr. Vassiliou will adopt a more constructive attitude after his affirmation ceremony.

Mr. Vassiliou had extracted votes from the Greek Cypriot people by promising to help reach a settlement with the Turkish Cypriots. His statements after the elections show that he has forgotten his promise. This is very worrying.

DOCUMENT S/19556*

Letter dated 29 February 1988 from the representative of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to the Secretary-General

[*Original: French*]
[*29 February 1988*]

On instructions from my Government and further to my earlier letters concerning the situation along the Lao-Thai border in the region of Nabonoi commune, Botène district, Sayaboury province, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of an unofficial translation from the Lao language of a message dated 26 February 1988 which Mr. Kaysone Phomvihane, President of the Council of Ministers of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, sent to Mr. Prem Tinsulanonda, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex distributed as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Alounkeo KITTIKHOUN
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission
of the Lao People's Democratic Republic
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Message dated 26 February 1988 from the President of the Council of Ministers of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to the Prime Minister of Thailand

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated 24 February 1988 [*S/19545, annex*].

The Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic and the Lao people as a whole are most gratified and set great store by the outcome of the negotiations between the military delegations of our two countries which were held at Bangkok on 16 and 17 February and at Vientiane on 23 and 24 February 1988. We welcome the success obtained in implementing the cease-fire agreement and the fact that this agreement will remain in force until our two countries complete the negotiations at the governmental level for the peaceful settlement of the border problem in the area of confrontation connecting the Lao province of Sayaboury and the Thai province of Phitsanoulok.

By this message I would inform you that the Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic has approved the decisions agreed upon by the Lao and Thai military delegations and has accepted their recommendation that political negotiations should be instituted for the purpose of finding a solution to the present conflict in keeping with the principles of law and justice, and on the basis of the 1907 Franco-Siamese treaty together with the relevant maps.

In reply to your invitation to send, as soon as possible, a Lao delegation to Bangkok to start negotiations with the Thai delegation, I am pleased to inform you that the Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic will send to Bangkok at 9.30 a.m. on 3 March 1988 a government delegation led by Brigadier-General Thonglay Kommasith to initiate negotiations with the Thai government delegation. The aim of the negotiations will be to settle the conflict in this region so as to help restore normal and friendly relations between our two countries, thereby satisfying the expectations of our two peoples and furthering the cause of peace, stability, friendship and co-operation in this region and the cause of global peace.

(*Signed*) Kaysone PHOMVIHANE
President of the Council of Ministers
of the Lao People's Democratic Republic

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/180-S/19556.

DOCUMENT S/19557

Letter dated 1 March 1988 from the representative of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to the President of the Security Council

[*Original: Arabic*]
[*1 March 1988*]

With reference to the letter contained in document S/19538, dated 25 February 1988, I wish to state that the contents of that letter are entirely without foundation. The letter itself refutes its own argument.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter distributed as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ali A. TREIKI
Permanent Representative
of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19558

Letter dated 1 March 1988 from the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*1 March 1988*]

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to enclose herewith a list of several instances of violations of international law by American warships and aircraft stationed in the Persian Gulf and the Sea of Oman.

It would be highly appreciated if this letter and its annex were circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammad Ja'afar MAHALLATI
Acting Permanent Representative
of the Islamic Republic of Iran
to the United Nations

ANNEX

United States violations of international law in the Persian Gulf

WARNINGS BY UNITED STATES WARSHIPS AGAINST IRANIAN SEA-PATROL AIRCRAFT

On 3 December 1987, at 1118 hours, American ship No. 26 at the position of 25°55′ N and 55°32′ E warned an Iranian sea-patrol aircraft at the position of 25°48′ N and 55°15′ E not to fly closer to the ship.

On 5 December American ship No. 54 at the position of 25°10′ N and 56°29′ E warned an Iranian sea-patrol aircraft at the position of 25°12′ N and 57°00′ E not to fly closer to the ship.

On 6 December, at 1120 hours, an American ship at the position of 25°47′ N and 55°30′ E warned an Iranian sea-patrol aircraft at the position of 26°02′ N and 55°06′ E not to fly closer to the ship.

On 18 December, at 0923 hours, American ship No. 996 at the position of 25°44′ N and 55°15′ E, in violation of all rules of international law and in violation of the sovereignty of Iran, warned an Iranian sea-patrol aircraft flying over Iranian territorial waters around the Tunb Island at the position of 26°10′ N and 55°20′ E not to fly closer to the ship.

VIOLATIONS OF IRANIAN AIRSPACE BY UNITED STATES AIRCRAFT

On 14 January 1988, at 0749 hours, an American aircraft travelling at the speed of 420 miles per hour and at the altitude of 29,000 feet violated Iranian airspace from the position of 25°30′ N and 58°35′ E and at 0758 hours, by passing through the position of 25°40′ N and 57°25′ E, departed from the airspace of Iranian territorial waters.

On 20 January, at 0743 hours, an American aircraft travelling at the speed of 500 miles per hour and at the altitude of 25,000 feet violated Iranian airspace from the position of 26°30′ N and 57°05′ E, and, following overflight in the southern parts of Iran, at 0749 hours the aircraft departed from Iranian airspace through the position of 25°45′ N and 57°40′ E.

DOCUMENT S/19559*

Letter dated 29 February 1988 from the representative of Colombia to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Spanish*]
[*1 March 1988*]

I have the honour to transmit the attached statement issued on 25 February 1988 by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the countries members of the Permanent Mechanism for Consultation and Concerted Political Action, namely Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Mexico, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela, for the purpose of announcing that the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland will conduct military manoeuvres in the Malvinas Islands between 7 and 31 March 1988.

I request that this note and its annex be circulated as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council, and also brought to the attention of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implemen-

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/181-S/19559.

tation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

(*Signed*) Enrique PEÑALOSA
Permanent Representative of Colombia to the United Nations

ANNEX

Statement issued on 25 February 1988 at Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the countries members of the Permanent Mechanism for Consultation and Concerted Political Action

[The Ministers] express their profound concern at the decision of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to conduct military manoeuvres in the Malvinas Islands. They denounce the gravity of this decision, which will lead to growing tension in the South Atlantic and which disregards its character of a zone of peace and co-operation, as declared in the United Nations General Assembly by the vast majority of the international community.

They urge the Government of the United Kingdom to refrain from holding the proposed military manoeuvres and to resume bilateral negotiations with the Argentine Republic with a view to a peaceful and definitive settlement of the dispute concerning sovereignty over the Malvinas Islands and the other problems outstanding between the two countries.

DOCUMENT S/19560*

Letter dated 1 March 1988 from the representative of Colombia to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Spanish*]
[*1 March 1988*]

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to convey to you the communiqué issued by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the countries members of the Contadora and Support Groups at the end of the third ordinary meeting of the Permanent Mechanism for Consultation and Concerted Political Action held at Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, from 24 to 26 February 1988.

The communiqué refers to an evaluation of the Central American situation and the prospects which the peace process offers.

I request that this note and its annex be circulated as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Enrique PEÑALOSA
Permanent Representative of Colombia to the United Nations

ANNEX

Communiqué issued on 26 February 1988 at Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the countries members of the Contadora and Support Groups

1. We again emphasize the enormous value of the contribution made to the peace process by the Presidents of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua when they signed at Guatemala City the document entitled "Procedures for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace in Central America" [*S/19085, annex*]. Whether democracy, peace, development and self-determination can be achieved in the region depends on the maintenance and deepening of this political will, as does the removal of the obstacles which still hamper the genuine settlement of disputes.

2. This last acquires special relevance in view of the urgent need to make progress in the area of security in the Central American isthmus, since aggressive confrontations, the arms race, destabilizing actions and the violation of international law persist in the region.

3. Recent developments indicate a growing conviction that aid to irregular forces operating in the region must cease. We hope that this trend will strengthen and that all commitments will be fulfilled unilaterally, unconditionally and immediately, whether they are aimed at the consolidation of pluralist democracies in the region or whether they refer to aspects of security provided for in the Guatemala Procedure. This has been affirmed by the Central American Presidents themselves.

4. To attain those ends, and in accordance with the appeal made in San Salvador by the Central American Governments that the Security Commission should convene next March, the Contadora Group reaffirms its readiness to participate, in exercise of its mediating function and with the backing of the Support Group, in the continuation of the negotiations on outstanding security matters, as indicated in section 7 of the Guatemala Procedure:

(*a*) Commitments with regard to weapons and military forces;

(*b*) Commitments with regard to military manoeuvres;

(*c*) Procedural and operational matters in relation to the rules or regulations of the Verification and Control Commission in the area of security;

(*d*) Measures for the disarmament of the irregular forces who are prepared to avail themselves of the amnesty decrees.

5. The success of such negotiations, as of the entire peace process, depends not only on the political will of the Central American Governments but also on the strict observance of the Guatemala Procedure by the countries with ties and interests in the region.

6. If there is to be progress in the peace process, there must be an impartial and objective verification procedure to monitor the fulfilment of commitments, and for this an appropriate framework of national and international machinery is essential.

Such verification is particularly important when it comes to matters relating to security and to political commitments capable of creating conditions designed to consolidate democracy in the region.

The report of the International Verification and Follow-up Commission has provided a clear and impartial analysis of the regional situation. In view of the commitments outstanding, there is a pressing need to agree on specific new arrangements concerning the verification process.

7. Economic and social inadequacies undermine the stability of political institutions in Central America and threaten the goal of independent and sovereign development. It is therefore imperative that the economic co-operation afforded to the region be expanded and that support be extended for the reconstruction of its economies. Accordingly, the Contadora and Support Groups call on the international community to participate in an international emergency co-operation programme for the Central American countries, as provided for in the Acapulco Commitment to Peace, Development and Democracy [*S/19314, annex*].

8. We reaffirm the legitimate appeal that the legal order be fully respected, as an essential basis for peaceful coexistence in the region. We are also convinced that the peaceful settlement of disputes in Central America is a legitimate aspiration of the Latin American countries. As our Presidents stated in the Acapulco Commitment, "peace and stability in Central America are matters of priority to our Governments. Not only the consoli-

* Circulated under the double symbol A/42/927-S/19560.

dation of democracy and the development in self-determination of the peoples of Central America, but also our countries' national interests, are at stake." [*Ibid., para. 30.*]

Accordingly, we, the Contadora and Support Groups, confirm our determination to continue to work actively, on the basis of consensus, for regional peace.

DOCUMENT S/19561*

Letter dated 1 March 1988 from the representative of Canada to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English/French*]
[*2 March 1988*]

I have the honour to forward the attached statement issued on 26 February by the Right Honourable Joe Clark, Secretary of State for External Affairs of Canada, on behalf of the Commonwealth Committee of Foreign Ministers on Southern Africa, which comprises Australia, Canada, Guyana, India, Nigeria, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

I ask that you circulate the present letter and the attached statement as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Stephen LEWIS
Permanent Representative of Canada to the United Nations

ANNEX

Statement issued on 26 February 1988 by the Secretary of State for External Affairs of Canada

The Commonwealth Committee of Foreign Ministers on Southern Africa (of Australia, Canada, Guyana, India, Nigeria, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe) strongly and unequivocally condemn the Draconian new measures announced by the Government of South Africa against 17 anti-*apartheid* organizations and individual leaders. These measures will limit severely, if not totally prohibit, political activity by a number of the most important groups engaged in non-violent opposition to *apartheid* and in providing support to its victims.

The Commonwealth Heads of Government at Vancouver unanimously reaffirmed the commitments of their Governments to work together towards an end to *apartheid* and the injustices and suffering its brings about for most South Africans and for their neighbours. The Government of South Africa must enter into meaningful negotiations with authentic leaders of the majority of the South African population. Instead of moving in this direction, it has chosen to place further restrictions on their fundamental political rights.

The Commonwealth Eminent Persons Group concluded that black South Africans "have had enough of *apartheid*" and that they are "no longer prepared to submit to its oppression, discrimination and exploitation". The question is not whether *apartheid* will be brought to an end, but how and when. Actions by the Government of South Africa to restrict open and peaceful opposition to *apartheid* even further will only serve to increase the likelihood of a growing cycle of violence. These actions underline the need for the international community to widen, tighten and intensify the application of measures that Commonwealth members have undertaken to encourage the dismantling of *apartheid*.

The Committee joins many South Africans and the international community in calling on the Government of South Africa to reverse its actions and begin to set the stage for meaningful negotiations towards a non-racial representative government. The Committee reaffirms its commitment towards this objective.

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/182-S/19561.

DOCUMENT S/19562*

Letter dated 1 March 1988 from the Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People to the Secretary-General

[*Original: French*]
[*1 March 1988*]

In my capacity as chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, I wish to draw once again your most urgent attention to the further aggravation of the situation in the occupied Palestinian territories and to the intensification of repression by the Israeli armed forces against Palestinian protesters, including the use of live ammunition, rubber bullets, tear gas, a declared policy of severe beatings and even burying persons alive. The Committee is also seriously concerned at reports of growing attacks by Israeli settlers against Palestinians.

The toll of Palestinians known to have been killed by Israeli gunfire or beatings is at least 79 since the beginning of the protests in early December, according to a report issued by Reuters on 29 February 1988. It is to be noted that at least 29 Palestinians have died since my last letter to you on 10 February [*S/19490*], indicating an extremely serious increase in casualties.

The New York Times also reported on 28 February that at least another 12 deaths have been attributed to the effects of tear gas. Physicians for Human Rights, a medical group which visited the occupied territories recently, has estimated that injuries run into the thousands, many of them victims of beatings administered randomly by the army with the intent to disable. The physicians also reported that medical personnel have been refused entry to refugee camps and areas under curfew, and that hospitals have been assaulted, medical personnel beaten, equipment smashed and patients pulled from beds and arrested.

A brief chronology of incidents since my last letter is as follows.

—Reuters reported on 12 February that Israeli troops had shot dead two Palestinian youths, aged 12 and 17, and

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/183-S/19562.

wounded several others in fierce clashes after Friday prayer in the Old City of Nablus in the West Bank.

—*The New York Times* reported on 12 February that a day earlier Israeli troops shot and killed a Palestinian youth at the Tulkarm refugee camp in the West Bank.

—In a further report on 14 February, *The New York Times* said that the beating of Palestinians by the Israeli army appeared to have grown more severe, with another two Palestinians having died of beating injuries, bringing the total to four during that week. A fifth person was reported by *The New York Times* of 16 February to have died of beating injuries on 14 February.

—In another incident described by *The New York Times* on 14 and 16 February, Israeli soldiers and Jewish settlers had severely beaten four young Palestinians in the village of Salim in the West Bank, then had forced them to lie on the ground and had used a bulldozer to bury them. The four were later rescued by villagers. A similar incident, in which an 18-year-old Palestinian was buried alive on the beach in Gaza Strip and later rescued by villagers, was reported by *The Jerusalem Post* on 23 February.

—According to UPI, on 17 February Israeli soldiers shot and killed a Palestinian protester in the village of Shuyukh, near Hebron. On 21 February *The New York Times* reported that two Palestinians, one of them 12 years old, had been shot and killed in Ramallah and Tulkarm refugee camp, respectively. The following day, the same newspaper reported that a Palestinian was shot, probably by a settler, in Deir Ammar refugee camp, near Ramallah, and another in Nablus.

—On 23 February, according to UPI, a 13-year-old Palestinian girl was killed by settlers in the village of Baqa Esh-Sharqiyya in the West Bank, and a Palestinian youth was killed by troops in the villalge of Kafr El-Yamun.

—Reuters reported on 24 February that a Palestinian suspected of collaborating with the Israeli occupation authorities had shot dead a 4-year-old boy and wounded 14 Palestinians when villagers attacked his home at Qabatiyah, near Jenin. The man was subsequently lynched.

—On 25 February Reuters reported the killing of a 14-year-old boy in Nablus and an 18-year-old at Jenin refugee camp.

—The next day, according to UPI, three Palestinians were killed by the army, including a 12-year-old boy and a 55-year-old woman, during protest demonstrations at Arrub refugee camp in Tubas, near Nablus, and in Jabaliya refugee camp. A fourth Palestinian died of suffocation as a result of tear gas in Hebron.

—In another day of bloodshed, three Palestinians were reported to have died on 27 February in Halhul after clashes with the army, according to *The New York Times* of 28 February.

—According to *The New York Times* of 29 February and 1 March, the latest violent incidents reported were an attack by armed settlers on an Arab village during the night of 27 February, during which two more Palestinians were shot to death, and a clash with the army in the village of Buruqin, near Nablus, during which an 18-year-old Palestinian was killed. Another Palestinian died of bullet wounds sustained in an earlier incident in Jenin.

In view of the gravity of the incidents described above, the Committee wishes to reaffirm once again the applicability of the Fourth Geneva Convention of 12 August 1949[1] to the occupied Palestinian territories and to appeal to all concerned to do their utmost to ensure the safety and protection of the Palestinian people under occupation.

Further, the Committee wishes to reiterate its view that, as long as the Palestinian people is prevented from exercising its inalienable rights in accordance with internationally recognized principles and United Nations resolutions, a comprehensive, just and lasting peace will not be achieved in the region. The Committee remains convinced that positive action by the Security Council on its recommendations, and on the International Peace Conference on the Middle East in accordance with General Assembly resolution 38/58 C, would advance prospects for a just and lasting settlement of the Palestine question, and it reiterates its appeal for the intensification of efforts by all concerned to promote such a settlement.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Massamba SARRÉ
Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise
of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People

DOCUMENT S/19563

Letter dated 1 March 1988 from the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*1 March 1988*]

I have the honour to enclose herewith the text of the letter from Mr. Ali Akbar Velayati, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

It would be highly appreciated if this letter was circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammad Ja'afar MAHALLATI
Acting Permanent Representative
of the Islamic Republic of Iran
to the United Nations

LETTER DATED 29 FEBRUARY 1988 FROM THE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

As you were informed in my letters of 27 and 28 February 1988, once again the aggressor régime of Iraq, encouraged and supported by other aggressor régimes, particularly the United States of America, and in order to sabotage the recent United Nations diplomatic efforts, has intensified its acts of aggression against the innocent civilians of the Islamic Republic of Iran, particularly in Tehran, the capital. This has resulted in the martyrdom and injury of a considerable number of innocent women, old men and children.

The aggressor régime of Iraq, in the course of its latest attacks on 29 February alone, savagely attacked more than eight purely residential areas, including a hospital the majority of whose patients were pregnant women. Consequently, several Tehran residents and the patients of the hospital were martyred and injured. The evacuation of the martyred and the injured took several hours.

As you may observe, the régime of Iraq has resumed its savage and inhuman attacks against our cities and is bent

upon the expansion of these attacks. By thus initiating and intensifying the "war of cities" in pursuit of the goals of the United States of America, the Iraqi régime attempts not only to divert attention from the rebellion of the Muslim people of Palestine against the Zionist régime but also to sabotage the recent United Nations efforts and, in collaboration with certain Security Council members, lure the Security Council into adopting another unilateral decision concerning the war imposed upon the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The Islamic Republic of Iran, in accordance with her regard for the rules of international law and the 12 June 1984 moratorium, has repeatedly declared its strong opposition to any attacks against non-military and residential areas. Accordingly, every instance of such attacks has been reported to you and the United Nations, and requests for immediate preventative measures have been made to halt the continuation of such savagery. However, it has often been observed that the United Nations has not only failed to terminate or reduce the crimes of the régime of Iraq, but also, by its failure to execute its principal duty of prevention of aggression and maintenance of international peace and security, has brought increasing despair to the victimized countries against whom aggression has occurred.

You are expected to take urgent measures to halt the Iraqi indiscriminate and lawless attacks against purely civilian and residential quarters. Otherwise, there will remain no doubt for the Islamic Republic of Iran that the United Nations is absolutely incapable of adopting any positive steps and that the hope and credibility which the Islamic Republic of Iran attaches to the Organization is in vain. Under such circumstances, the Islamic Republic of Iran will, in legitimate self-defence, have to enhance its retaliatory measures against military, industrial and economic centres of Iraq and consider a military solution as the only viable means to put an end to the Iraqi aggression and the imposed war.

It is evident that should such a circumstance arise, the responsibility for the consequences of endangerment of peace in the region and the world ought to be borne by the United Nations, which is constitutionally responsible for its maintenance, and by the supporters of Iraq, particularly the United States of America.

Ali Akbar VELAYATI
Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Islamic Republic of Iran

DOCUMENT S/19564*

Letter dated 2 March 1987 from the representative of Argentina to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English/Spanish*]
[*2 March 1988*]

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a resolution which the Permanent Council of the Organization of American States adopted without objection on 1 March 1988 at an extraordinary meeting. The meeting had been convened because of the announcement that the United Kingdom would undertake military exercises in the Malvinas Islands between 7 and 31 March 1988. The resolution is entitled: "Deep concern over the decision by the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to undertake military exercises in the Malvinas Islands and the hope that that decision will be reconsidered".

I request that this note and its annex be circulated forthwith as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council, and brought to the attention of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

(*Signed*) Marcelo E. R. DELPECH
Permanent Representative of Argentina
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Resolution CP/Res.494/730/88, adopted 1 March 1988 by the Permanent Council of the Organization of American States

HAVING SEEN:

The statement made before this Permanent Council by the Secretary of Foreign Affairs of the Argentine Republic denouncing the fact that on 11 February 1988 the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland announced that British armed forces are preparing to undertake a military exercise, between 7 and 31 March 1988, to test their ability to provide rapid reinforcement of the Malvinas Islands in an emergency and that later additional exercises will be conducted;

CONSIDERING:

The noncompliance with resolutions 595 (XII-0/82), 669 (XIII-0/83), 700 (XIV-0/84), 765 (XV-0/85), 815 (XVI-0/86) and 872 (XVII-0/87) of the OAS General Assembly and 37/9, 38/12, 39/6, 40/21, 41/40 and 42/19 of the United Nations General Assembly;

That there persists in the South Atlantic area, within the security zone defined in article 4 of the Inter-American Treaty of Reciprocal Assistance, a situation that affects the peace and security of the American hemisphere;

RESOLVES:

1. To once again urge the Governments of Argentina and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to resume negotiations aimed at finding, as soon as possible, a peaceful settlement of the sovereignty dispute and the other differences relating to this matter;

2. To express its deep concern at the increase in tension in the South Atlantic following the decision of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to undertake military exercises in the Malvinas Islands;

3. To express the hope that the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland will reconsider its decision to hold such exercises at this time, with a view to creating a climate of mutual trust for future negotiations;

4. To transmit this resolution to the President of the General Assembly, the President of the Security Council and to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, so that note may be taken of the opinion of the American States regarding this situation.

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/185-S/19564.

DOCUMENT S/19565*

Letter dated 2 March 1988 from the representative of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Arabic*]
[*2 March 1988*]

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter addressed to you by Mr. Jadallah Azzouz Talhi, Secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison, in which he appeals, through you, to the international community and world public opinion to adopt a firm position and deterrent measures in connection with the crimes committed by the Zionist entity and to work to isolate that illegal entity at the international level and expel it from the United Nations and all international organizations.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ali A. TREIKI
Permanent Representative
of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
to the United Nations

LETTER FROM THE SECRETARY OF THE PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE OF THE PEOPLE'S BUREAU FOR FOREIGN LIAISON OF THE LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

The Zionist entity has once again committed an odious crime against the Palestinian people, as the latter engages in a general popular uprising in the occupied Arab territories to protest against the policies of occupation, oppression and aggression and the genocidal acts to which it is subjected daily.

On Monday, 29 February 1988, at Qiliqiliya (Nablus), the Zionist occupation forces set fire to a hut into which it had herded 14 Palestinian Arabs. Ten victims were burnt alive and the other four suffered third-degree burns.

These genocidal crimes, which are perpetrated daily against the Palestinian people by the Zionist gangs sustained by American imperialism, and which consist in massacring children, young people and the elderly, burying them alive, breaking their feet, legs and arms, exceeding all bounds and committing every type of act proscribed by international instrument and practice, testify to the barbarous Hitlerian policy adopted by the racist Zionist enemy to deal with the general uprising of the Palestinian people and to prevent it from exercising its legitimate right to self-determination and the establishment of an independent State throughout its national territory.

We appeal, through you, to the international community and to world public opinion to adopt a firm position and deterrent measures in connection with the unimaginable and unspeakable crimes committed by the Zionist entity and to work to isolate that entity at the international level and secure its expulsion from the United Nations and all international organizations, since it is an illegal entity which pursues a policy based on occupation, expansionism, terror, genocide and violations of human rights and of all international instruments and practices.

Jadallah Azzouz TALHI
Secretary of the People's Committee
of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison
of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/186-S/19565.

DOCUMENT S/19566*

Letter dated 2 March 1988 from the representative of Afghanistan to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*2 March 1988*]

I have the honour to transmit to you the text of a message dated 2 March 1988 from Najibullah, President of the Republic of Afghanistan, addressed to you.

I have further the honour to request the circulation of the present letter and its annex as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Shah Mohammad DOST
Permanent Representative of Afghanistan
to the United Nations

MESSAGE DATED 2 MARCH 1988 FROM NAJIBULLAH, PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF AFGHANISTAN, TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I am confident that you are aware of the contents of my statement [*S/19494, annex*] and that of M. S. Gorbachev, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, dated 8 February [*S/19482, annex*], with regard to the solution of the situation around Afghanistan, which was warmly welcomed by the people in our country and by the peace-loving forces of the world. In these declarations of the Republic of Afghanistan and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, positive response has been given to the last condition of the other side pertaining to the return of the limited military contingent of the Soviet Union from Afghanistan.

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/187-S/19566.

We have declared that if the Geneva agreement is signed by 15 March, the withdrawal of the contingent will commence on 15 May and be completed in 10 months. If the agreement is signed earlier, the withdrawal of the contingent will begin sooner. Similarly, we have accepted that a comparatively large portion of the contingent will return in the first phase of the time-frame, and we have not made the beginning of the withdrawal conditional on the formation of a coalition Government.

Since the pronouncement of these declarations, new developments have taken place, which indeed have become a source of concern to us and to all peace-loving people of the world. Now that all conditions conducive to the political solution of the situation are on hand, the Pakistani authorities, by rapidly retreating from their previous positions, are putting forward new conditions for signing the Geneva accord. It is a matter which needs to be seriously pondered. The conditions put forward are solely a matter of Afghanistan's internal affairs and are in no way whatsoever concerned with the four documents of the Geneva agreement, which focus only on the solution of the external dimension of the issue.

After negotiating through the representative of the United Nations Secretary-General for nearly six years on the four documents of the Geneva accord, which are almost completed from the Afghan side, Pakistan now most irresponsibly proclaims that it is not in a position to sign the agreement with the Government of the Republic of Afghanistan, thus violating the most fundamental principles of the accepted norms of inter-State conduct. Pakistan is bent on undermining the Government of the Republic of Afghanistan and asks for the formation of a so-called transitional Government. It need not be emphasized that the internal issues in Afghanistan, on which we have clarified our position a year ago—the composition of the coalition Government—can be discussed only by the Afghans themselves. What is being forwarded by the Pakistani side as a new condition for the solution of the situation around Afghanistan is aimed at endangering the process of negotiations, and this will have no consequences other than the continuation of war and bloodshed.

After enduring immense losses incurred as a result of nearly nine years of war, the people of Afghanistan attach great hope to the success of national reconciliation and the Geneva talks. The policy of national reconciliation, which has opened new horizons for the establishment of peace and national accord, gains further achievements with every passing day. This policy has brought about objectives and favourable grounds conducive to the solution of the internal dimension of the issue and to the creation of a coalition Government in the country. The signing of the Geneva agreement will bring an end to all forms of foreign interference in our country and will bring about conditions contributing to the return of the Soviet forces and the return of our refugee compatriots.

We have made serious preparations for participating in the forthcoming round of Geneva talks, and we shall not refrain from exerting efforts demonstrating good will. Nevertheless, achieving this aim needs positive political will from the other party.

Our people look forward to the support of all peace-loving forces of the world—their extended support in the struggle for establishing peace and stability in our country and for not allowing bloodshed by postponing the signing of the Geneva agreement.

On behalf of all the people of my country, I should like to ask you, by availing of your moral prestige, to exert pressure on Pakistan to sign the Geneva instruments that are virtually finalized. The people and the Government of Afghanistan highly commend your indefatigable and high efforts for the realization of peace in Afghanistan and in the region.

DOCUMENT S/19567

Letter dated 2 March 1988 from the representative of Sierra Leone to the President of the Security Council

[*Original: English*]
[*2 March 1988*]

In my capacity as Chairman of the Group of African States for the month of March 1988, I have the honour to request an urgent meeting of the Security Council to consider the question of South Africa on Thursday, 3 March 1988.

(*Signed*) Sheka A. MANSARAY
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission of Sierra Leone
to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19568

Letter dated 2 March 1988 from the representative of Zambia to the President of the Security Council

[*Original: English*]
[*2 March 1988*]

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to request that an urgent meeting of the Security Council be convened to consider the item entitled "The question of South Africa".

(*Signed*) Peter D. ZUZE
Permanent Representative of Zambia
to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19572

Letter dated 3 March 1988 from the representative of Kuwait to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*3 March 1988*]

I have the honour to enclose herewith the message from Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, Amir of the State of Kuwait, Chairman of the Fifth Session of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, addressed to the leaders of the States members of the Security Council.

I should be grateful if the text of the message would be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammad A. ABULHASAN
Permanent Representative of Kuwait
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Message dated 1 March 1988 from the Amir of the State of Kuwait and Chairman of the Fifth Session of the Organization of the Islamic Conference to the leaders of the States members of the Security Council

[*Original: Arabic*]

There has been a tragic new development in the Iraq-Iran war—a war which is itself a tragedy of bloodshed that has claimed the lives of hundreds of thousands on both sides since it began more than seven years ago. There has been a resumption of the bombing of cities and populated areas where children, women and the elderly, whose only wish is to live in peace, cannot defend themselves or avoid the bombs which are dropped on such areas.

On behalf of the Islamic world, and in accordance with the love for peace and brotherhood among all humanity which is advocated by Islam and was preached by all the prophets, and on behalf of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, whose current session I have the honour to chair, I should like to pay tribute to the good offices of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and to urge the Security Council, particularly its permanent members, to remember that every day in which their effective intervention to end this war is delayed entails further innocent casualties among the populations of both warring parties.

I hope that my message to you will provide a further incentive to initiate expeditious action in this context and so to fulfil the aspirations of all peoples of the world for peace in an area which has long yearned for peace.

Jaber Al Ahmad Al Jaber AL SABAH
Amir of Kuwait
Chairman of the Organization of
the Islamic Conference

DOCUMENT S/19573*

Letter dated 1 March 1988 from the representative of Guyana to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*3 March 1988*]

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a statement issued on 29 February 1988 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Guyana on the recent restrictions imposed by the régime in South Africa on anti-*apartheid* organizations.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have this text circulated as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) S. R. INSANALLY
Permanent Representative of Guyana
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Statement issued on 29 February 1988 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Guyana

The recent restrictions imposed by the Pretoria régime on organizations in South Africa engaged in peaceful protest and political action against *apartheid* have been sudden and harsh.

The blocking by the régime of all peaceful avenues of protest by the oppressed people of South Africa comes after the imposition of a virtually permanent state of emergency and the adoption of totalitarian measures aimed at preventing press coverage of unrest and State terrorist activities

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/188-S/19573.

inside South Africa. These developments confirm that the Pretoria régime has no interest whatsoever in peaceful change in that country and highlight the hollow nature of that régime's rhetoric of reform. The steps taken reflect desperation and manifest the contempt in which the white racist rulers hold the oppressed majority of South Africa.

This action by Pretoria constitutes a monstrous attack on human freedom in South Africa, and all decent people throughout the world must be outraged by it. We condemn this latest manoeuvre by Pretoria.

There should now be no equivocation by certain members of the international community on the individual and collective action necessary to rid the world of the scourge of *apartheid*. The régime must be further isolated, existing sanctions made more effective, and additional ones applied.

In the final analysis Guyana's hope for the future of South Africa rests naturally with the oppressed masses—the men, the women, the youths of the country—in whom the desire for freedom will not be extinguished by Draconian pieces of legislation or by the utterly repressive measures used to enforce it. On this occasion, therefore, we renew our support for and solidarity with the struggles of those oppressed peoples, and we reiterate our determination to intensify our own efforts to increase international pressure and action for the complete isolation of the Pretoria régime and for the dismantling of the odious *apartheid* system.

DOCUMENT S/19574*

Letter dated 3 March 1988 from the representative of Argentina to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Spanish*]
[*3 March 1988*]

I have the honour to request you to have circulated as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council a communiqué issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship of the Argentine Republic concerning the further harsh measures of repression which the Government of South Africa has taken with a view to perpetuating the unjust *apartheid* régime.

I further request that this communiqué should be brought to the attention of the Special Committee against *Apartheid*.

(*Signed*) Marcelo E. R. DELPECH
Permanent Representative of Argentina to the United Nations

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/189-S/19574.

ANNEX

Communiqué from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship of the Argentine Republic, issued on 1 March 1988

Given the further harsh measures of repression taken by the Government of South Africa—namely, the ban on all peaceful political activity by 18 extraparliamentary organizations representing a broad sector of the black community of South Africa, the brutal police intervention to disperse a demonstration calling for the repeal of those measures and the arrest of Archbishop Tutu of the Anglican Church, Archbishop Stephen of the Catholic Church, the President of the Methodist Church and 20 other religious leaders who were at the head of the demonstration—the Government of Argentina expresses its strong condemnation of those arbitrary measures, which are aimed at perpetuating the unjust *apartheid* régime and hence at infringing basic human rights.

DOCUMENT S/19575*

Letter dated 1 March 1988 from the representative of Afghanistan to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*3 March 1988*]

I have the honour to transmit to you a message addressed to the United Nations by the participants in the mass meeting of the Kabul City residents in connection with the resumption of the Geneva talks.

I have further the honour to request the circulation of this message as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Shah Mohammad DOST
Permanent Representative of Afghanistan to the United Nations

ANNEX

Message addressed to the United Nations by the participants in the mass meeting of the Kabul City residents

We, the participants in this meeting, composed of young and old, men and women, workers, artisans, merchants, intelligentsia, clergy, disabled, mothers and widows who have been affected by war, on behalf of all the Moslem people of Afghanistan, call upon the United Nations, the Governments and all peace-loving people of the world to assist in bringing about a cease-fire in the country.

The people of Afghanistan are tired of war. The people have endured sorrow and anguish, death and devastation. Therefore, the Government of Afghanistan, on the basis of the proposal of the clergy and in conformity with the sacred religion of Islam, has declared the policy of national reconciliation. This policy meets the hope and aspiration of all Afghans and has been widely supported by the people.

We are confident that the negotiations between Afghanistan and Pakistan, which will start tomorrow, will be successful and that the historic chance for the realization of peace and tranquillity in our country will not be missed.

The leadership of Afghanistan has demonstrated flexibility and realism and has accepted serious compromises for achieving national accord and tranquillity in our land.

The statement of esteemed Najibullah, President of Afghanistan, once again satisfactorily deals with the matter. We expect that the other side, too, will come to the negotiation table with such sense of responsibility and will assist in the successful conclusion of these talks. Efforts to introduce conditions, which in fact means bringing the Geneva negotiations to a stand-still, can be exerted only by irrational people who consider their vested interests higher than the interests of all the Afghans or, in other words, by those who accumulate wealth on the account of the sorrow and anguish of the people, and also by those in whose interest is the continuation of the war.

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/190-S/19575.

We hope that wisdom, reason and good will prevail. The people of Afghanistan appraise highly the peace-loving and valuable activities of the United Nations, and we are confident that the Organization will do its utmost for the realization of the supreme right of humanity, the right to live in peace. We are grateful for all peoples, Governments, political figures and all those who support us in our march on the difficult path for peace. The Afghans want to be the masters of their destiny and to build their homeland. The Afghans are the patrons of their country and will remain so.

Our compatriots want to rejoice, cultivate their land, raise their children and live in prosperity with the rising of the sun in a peaceful sky. All the people of our planet have the right to live a happy human life, and this cannot be possible without peace.

Peaceful Afghanistan is a sovereign, independent, non-aligned and free country.

Peace means life. Peace means prosperity. Peace means friendship between peoples.

DOCUMENT S/19576*

Letter dated 3 March 1988 from the representative of Greece to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*3 March 1988*]

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a statement issued by the Greek Government on 1 March 1988 on the current situation in South Africa.

I kindly request you to circulate this letter and its annex as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Constantine D. ZEPOS
Permanent Representative of Greece to the United Nations

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/201-S/19576.

ANNEX

Statement issued on 1 March 1988 by the Government of Greece

The Greek Government strongly condemns the cruel arrest of Nobel peace laureate Archbishop Tutu and other church leaders as well as the recent unacceptable measures taken by the South African Government against many political organizations struggling for the abolition of *apartheid* by peaceful means.

The Greek Government considers that it is imperative that the South African Government proceed with the immediate lifting of all oppressive measures which obstruct basic rights and liberties so that the necessary national dialogue shall start without further delay.

DOCUMENT S/19577

Letter dated 26 February 1988 from the Secretary-General to the Governments of all States Members of the United Nations or members of specialized agencies containing a further appeal for voluntary contributions for the financing of the United Nations Peace-keeping Force in Cyprus

[*Original: English/French/Spanish*]
[*4 March 1988*]

I have the honour to write to you about the critical financial situation of the United Nations Peace-keeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP). Despite my repeated appeals for voluntary contributions, receipts continue to fall far short of the Organization's share of expenditures, even though that share is less than a third of the total cost of maintaining UNFICYP. The concern I have repeatedly expressed in this regard is very much shared by the Governments of the troop-contributing countries: their deep dissatisfaction with this situation was again evidenced in joint letters addressed to me and to the President of the Security Council in December 1987 [*S/19334 and S/19341*].

At the end of January 1988, the accumulated shortfall in the UNFICYP Special Account for the mandate periods ending 15 June 1988 had reached $166 million. As regards the current period, only $1.6 million has so far been pledged or received against projected expenditure estimated at some $13 million (see annex for details of the current financial situation). The burden of the massive deficit falls entirely and unfairly on the handful of troop-contributing countries whose claims the United Nations has been able to meet only up to June 1979. It is clear that this situation cannot go on indefinitely.

The vital peace-keeping role of UNFICYP has been unanimously emphasized by the Security Council time and again and the stationing of the Force in the island has been repeatedly extended by it. As I have reported to the Council, the Force continues to make an indispensable contribution to international peace and security and to maintaining calm in Cyprus, a condition which remains indispensable for my ongoing efforts to negotiate a political settlement.

Given the important role played by UNFICYP and the increasingly precarious financial situation in which it finds itself, I should be most grateful if you could convey to your Government my concern about this situation and my urgent appeal for a voluntary financial contribution. It is my hope that your Government will find it possible to respond generously to this appeal so as to enable this important peace-keeping operation of the United Nations to continue.

(*Signed*) Javier PÉREZ DE CUÉLLAR

ANNEX

Financing and financial position of the United Nations Peace-keeping Force in Cyprus

In accordance with Security Council resolution 186 (1964) on the establishment of UNFICYP, the costs of the Force are being met by the Governments providing the contingents and by voluntary contributions received for this purpose by the United Nations. In addition, the Government of Cyprus provides, at no cost to the United Nations, areas for the headquarters, camps and other premises of UNFICYP.

Under existing arrangements, the troop-contributing Governments make available to the United Nations troops whose regular pay and allowances and normal *matériel* expenses they have agreed to pay themselves. In addition, these Governments have agreed to finance at their own expense, as a further contribution to the United Nations operation in Cyprus, certain extra and

extraordinary costs that they incur in respect of UNFICYP. Both these cost elements currently amount to some $33 million for each six-month period. They represent some 70 per cent of the total cost of maintaining UNFICYP.

The United Nations is responsible for financing entirely through voluntary contributions received from Governments (*a*) the operational expenditures (i.e. administrative and logistic support) incurred by UNFICYP and (*b*) certain extra and extraordinary costs incurred by the troop-contributing Governments for which they seek reimbursement. These expenditures are currently in the order of some $13 million for the six-month period ending 15 June 1988.

The actual cost of financing the United Nations operation in Cyprus for the six-month period ending 15 June 1988 is estimated, therefore, at some $46 million.

Since 1964, 75 countries have provided voluntary financial support to UNFICYP totalling approximately $388 million. However, the contributions received for each extension period have consistently fallen short of the amounts required to meet the direct costs of the Force for which the United Nations is responsible. As a result, the shortfall in the UNFICYP Special Account as at 31 January 1988 for the mandate periods ending 15 June 1988 is estimated at $166 million. The status of contributions received for the latest four mandate periods is shown in the attached table.

STATUS OF CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE UNFICYP SPECIAL ACCOUNT FOR THE LATEST FOUR MANDATE PERIODS AS AT 31 JANUARY 1988

(In United States dollar equivalent)

	16 June 1986 to 15 December 1986	*16 December 1986 to 15 June 1987*	*16 June 1987 to 15 December 1987*	*16 December 1987 to 15 June 1988*
Country	*Fiftieth period*	*Fifty-first period*	*Fifty-second period*	*Fifty-third period*
Australia[a]	50 000	50 000	50 000	—
Austria[ab]	125 000	125 000	125 000	—
Bahamas	1 000	1 000	1 000	1 000
Barbados	500	—	—	—
Belgium	107 066	131 352	131 352	—
Brunei Darussalam	—	1 500	1 500	—
Canada[a]	—	—	—	
Cyprus	325 000	350 000	350 000	—
Denmark[ab]	116 428	116 429	—	—
Finland[a]	—	—	—	—
Germany, Federal Republic of	656 312	768 643	768 644	—
Greece	400 000	400 000	—	—
Iceland	5 750	5 508	5 509	—
India	—	5 000	5 000	—
Indonesia	2 500	—	—	—
Ireland[a]	—	—	—	—
Italy	200 000	200 000	—	—
Jamaica	—	500	500	—
Japan	200 000	200 000	200 000	—
Luxembourg	2 750	—	—	—
Nepal	400	—	—	—
Norway	305 000	305 000	305 000	—
Pakistan	1 500	1 500	1 500	—
Sweden[a]	—	—	—	
Switzerland	253 127	625 506	625 506	—
Thailand	—	1 000	—	—
Togo	1 264	1 655	1 656	—
Tunisia	—	1 500	1 500	—
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland[ab]	1 248 511	1 323 320	1 401 069	1 586 741
United States of America	4 500 000	2 812 000	—	—
Venezuela	2 500	2 500	2 500	—
Yugoslavia	10 000	10 000	10 000	—
Zimbabwe	738	—	—	—
TOTAL	8 515 346	7 438 913	3 987 236	1 587 741

[a]Indicates troop-contributing Governments. Indicative figures over a six-month period of the costs absorbed for providing contingents are as follows: Australia, $500,000; Austria, $1.9 million; Canada, $10.7 million; Denmark, $650,000; Ireland, $64,000 and United Kingdom, $19 million.

[b]Payment has been made or will be made by means of an offset against the Government's claims for reimbursement of costs.

DOCUMENT S/19578*

Letter dated 3 March 1988 from the representative of Turkey to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*3 March 1988*]

I have the honour to attach herewith a letter dated 3 March 1988 addressed to you by Mr. Özer Koray, representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus.

I should be grateful if this letter were circulated as a document of the forty-second session of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) İlter TÜRKMEN
Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations

ANNEX

Letter dated 3 March 1988 from Mr. Özer Koray to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose herewith the "Good will measures proposed by the Turkish Cypriot side on 3 March 1988", the text of which was handed by Mr. Rauf R. Denktaş, President of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, to Mr. Oscar Camillion, Special Representative in Cyprus.

I should be grateful if this letter and its enclosure were circulated as a document of the forty-second session of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

ENCLOSURE

Good-will measures proposed by the Turkish Cypriot side on 3 March 1988

Further to my invitation to the newly elected Greek Cypriot leader, Mr. Vassiliou, for a social, informal meeting with me, I feel it useful to propose the following good-will measures which may be instrumental in creating an atmosphere conducive to the re-establishment of trust and confidence, in developing points of common understanding between the Turkish Cypriots and Greek Cypriots and in exploring areas of co-operation which may also lead to meaningful personal contact between the members of the two sides. Needless to say, these proposals will be without prejudice to the respective positions of the two sides with regard to each other's political status or to a comprehensive settlement and to procedural practices deemed necessary by the respective authorities. Below are the areas in which we propose contact with a view to exploring the possibility of co-operation on an *ad hoc* basis.

1. Formation of a committee or committees, members of which will be designated by each respective side, for the purpose of studying the possibilities and potentials of co-operation:

—In the area of trade between the two communities;

—Between Turkish Cypriot and Greek Cypriot municipalities, also taking into account the existing mechanism in this field;

—In the area of environmental protection (mosquito and insect control, agricultural pest control, prevention of animal diseases, protection of game, marine life and endangered species, etc.);

—In the area of environmental pollution control;

—In the co-ordination of efforts in dealing with common health problems (e.g., thalasseamia), immediate exchange of information on contagious diseases and for their prevention.

2. Establishing a consultative mechanism for the purpose of encouraging various contacts between the two communities on:

—Sports activities: the opening to both sides, and for intercommunal sporting activities, of the Cetinkaya Stadium near the Ledra Palace;

—Cultural activities (e.g. mutual visits by theatre companies, orchestras, arts exhibitions, etc.);

—Scientific exchanges.

3. Teaching of Turkish and Greek as second languages on a voluntary basis.

4. Co-operation between the Turkish Cypriot and Greek Cypriot police organizations on illicit drug trafficking and other serious crime.

5. Co-operation between the authorities of both sides in the capture and quick return of ordinary criminals who, after having committed a crime on one side, flee to the other side.

It goes without saying that efforts in the above-suggested areas of co-operation can only succeed if it is agreed to refrain from:

(*a*) Hampering each other's interests and activities in the fields of trade, tourism, transportation, communications and other economic activities;

(*b*) The use of offensive language and commentaries inciting ill-feeling between the two communities, in all official and semi-official media;

(*c*) Any activity aimed at preventing the Turkish Cypriot sports teams and athletes taking part in international sports events.

* Circulated under the double symbol A/42/928-S/19578.

DOCUMENT S/19579*

Letter dated 3 March 1988 from the representative of Argentina to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Spanish*]
[*4 March 1988*]

I have the honour to transmit the text of a joint communiqué issued on 3 March 1988 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship and the Ministry of Defence of the Argentine Republic in connection with the decision of the United Kingdom to conduct military exercises in the area of the Malvinas Islands between 7 and 31 March 1988.

I request that this note and its annex be circulated urgently as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council, and that the document should also be brought to the attention of the Special Committee on decolonization.

(*Signed*) Marcelo E. R. DELPECH
Permanent Representative of Argentina to the United Nations

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/203-S/19579.

ANNEX

Joint communiqué of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship and the Ministry of Defence of the Argentine Republic issued on 3 March 1988

The Government of Great Britain has announced that, between 7 and 31 March this year, it will conduct military exercises in the Malvinas Islands.

Such a step, in addition to violating the sovereign rights of the Argentine Republic over that island territory, runs counter to the relevant resolutions of the United Nations, the Organization of American States and other declarations of the international community in which the two Governments were requested to engage in negotiations with a view to a peaceful and definitive solution of their ongoing dispute over those islands.

The actions announced by Great Britain are also contrary to the United Nations resolutions which declare the South Atlantic to be a zone of peace and co-operation, a zone whose character the United Kingdom undertook to respect scrupulously. In voting in favour of those resolutions, that country undertook, furthermore, to refrain from any action that might create or aggravate situations of tension or potential conflict in the region.

The Argentine Government has repeatedly declared its willingness to resolve its dispute with the British Government through peaceful negotiations. Without prejudice to its avowed readiness in that regard, the Argentine Government bears responsibilities flowing from the rights of the country and has the obligation to protect the lives and property of those living on Argentine soil.

For the reasons given, the following measures have been adopted and shall remain in effect while the actions announced by the United Kingdom are in progress.

I. *Vigilance and defensive alert*

Close vigilance will be maintained over any military activities undertaken in the South Atlantic during the announced exercises with a view to:

1. Enabling the Argentine Republic and the international community in general to be truly aware of the activities which Great Britain is to carry out in a zone declared by the United Nations General Assembly to be a zone of peace and co-operation;

2. Making every possible effort, through the exercise of preventive vigilance, to avoid the risk of incidents that may be caused by the actions announced by Great Britain;

3. Where necessary, putting into operation the corresponding defence plans.

II. *Warning to shipping*

Without prejudice to the full force of the agreements to which the Argentine Republic is a party and the norms of international law, it is deemed fitting to alert vessels flying third flags to the aforementioned measures, so as to ensure that they do not become involved in incidents, and to warn them that they may be subject to search, inspection or seizure, as the case may be, by the competent Argentine authorities, in accordance with the relevant norms of international law.

DOCUMENT S/19580

Letter dated 4 March 1988 from the representative of Iraq to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Arabic*]
[*4 March 1988*]

On instructions from my Government, and further to our many previous letters concerning the Iranian régime's persistence in shelling purely residential districts in Iraq, I have the honour to inform you that, on 2 and 3 March 1988, the forces of the Iranian régime committed the acts of aggression which are listed in the annex to this letter.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ismat KITTANI
Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations

ANNEX

Iranian bombardment

Time	*Place*	*Number of shells*	*Casualties and damage*
2 March			
1735 to 0430	Basra governorate: Maaqal, Dakir, Zubayr district	11, and 37 rockets	3 children wounded and 8 vehicles damaged
1150 to 1700	Basra governorate: Ashshar, Buradi'iyah, Dakir, Jaza'ir, Kebla, the Corniche, Sa'diya, Hakimiya, Souk Khodhar, Jubaylah, Khandag, Manawi, Lajm, Kuwaz, Tahsiniya, Zubayr district	201, including 10 rockets	8 dead, including 5 children and 2 women; 10 wounded, including 4 women; 3 houses destroyed and 5 damaged
0300 to 0400	Sulaymaniyah governorate: Qala Diza district, Beymalik residential complex		5 wounded, including 1 woman; a number of houses damaged
3 March			
1755 to 0612	Ashshar, Rabat, Tamimiya, Jaza'ir, Abbassiyah, Buradi'iyah, Harithah sub-district, Qurnah (Basra)	135, including 15 rockets	1 dead; 12 wounded, including 1 child; 7 vehicles and 1 house damaged

DOCUMENT S/19581

Letter dated 4 March 1988 from the representative of Iraq to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Arabic*]
[*4 March 1988*]

On instructions from my Government, and further to our many previous letters concerning the Iranian régime's persistence in shelling purely residential districts in Iraq, I have the honour to inform you that, on 29 February and 1 March 1988, the forces of the Iranian régime committed the acts of aggression listed below.

Time	*Place*	*Number of shells*	*Casualties and damage*
29 February			
0922 to 1440	Basra governorate: Harithah sub-district, Qurnah district	22	3 houses destroyed; 3 houses and 1 shop damaged
1 March			
0530 to 1700	Basra governorate: Maaqal, Harithah sub-district, Qurnah district	281	2 killed, including 1 woman; 14 wounded, including 6 children and 2 women; 5 houses destroyed; 3 houses, several shops and 1 recreation centre damaged; 1 vehicle set on fire
1430 to 1445	Sulaymaniyah governorate: Qala Diza district, Beymalik residential quarter		

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ismat KITTANI
Permanent Representative of Iraq
to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19582*

Letter dated 2 March 1988 from the representative of Pakistan to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*4 March 1988*]

Further to our letter dated 10 February 1988 [*S/19497*], I have the honour to report to you the following incidents in violation of Pakistan territory from the Afghanistan side, which occurred on 21 and 25 February 1988.

On 21 February, at 0752 hours, eight Afghan aircraft violated Pakistan airspace by approximately three kilometres and fired ten rockets in the area of Gargat Sar/Sasa Post in the North Waziristan Agency. As a result, a soldier of Frontier Corps was injured and a bunker slightly damaged.

On 25 February, at 0800 hours, 12 Afghan fighter aircraft violated Pakistan airspace and dropped a few bombs in the Nawa Pass area in the Mohmand Agency. As a result of the bombing, one soldier was killed.

The Afghan Chargé d'affaires was called to the Foreign Office on the mornings of 25 and 28 February and a strong protest was lodged with him over the unprovoked attacks. He was asked to inform the authorities in Kabul that if such attacks did not cease the entire responsibility for the serious consequences would rest on them.

I request you to have this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) S. Shah NAWAZ
Permanent Representative of Pakistan
to the United Nations

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/204-S/19582.

DOCUMENT S/19583*

Letter dated 5 March 1988 from the representative of Iraq to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Arabic*]
[*5 March 1988*]

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you the text of a letter from Mr. Tariq Aziz, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq.

I should be grateful if you would arrange for the text of this letter and its annex to be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ismat KITTANI
Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations

LETTER DATED 5 MARCH 1988 FROM THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF IRAQ ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

In reference to the frantic efforts by the leaders of the bellicose, expansionist Iranian régime to mislead the United Nations and world public opinion about the situation regarding attacks on exclusively civilian population centres, notably the Iranian letters dated 28 and 29 February and 1 March 1988 (S/19548, S/19550 and S/19563), I have the honour to point out that this Iranian tactic is not new and must be most strongly resisted.

In this connection, I should like to remind you of a number of facts.

1. Iran's aggression against Iraq really began on 4 September 1980, with attacks on the inhabitants of towns and villages which were subjected to heavy bombardment by artillery and the air force. Iraqi border towns and villages were not pounded by Iranian artillery between 1980 and 1982 because the Iranian artillery had been driven some kilometres back by Iraqi forces; nevertheless, they were bombarded by the Iranian air force. In any event, ever since the Iraqi forces pulled out of Iranian territory in June 1982 and Iranian forces were deployed along the entire border, Iraqi towns and villages within Iranian artillery range have been subject to routine bombardment.

2. The first party to request a bilateral agreement to spare residential areas was Iraq. The President of the Republic of Iraq, Mr. Saddam Hussein, in a letter to the peoples of Iran dated 7 June 1983 (S/15825), offered to conclude a special agreement, to be monitored by a jointly designated international body, under which the parties would refrain from attacking towns and villages. His proposal was rejected by Iran.

3. In its resolution 540 (1983) of 31 October 1983, the Security Council called for "the immediate cessation of all military operations against civilian targets, including city and residential areas". This demand was rejected by Iran.

4. In 1984 the Security Council held discussions on the issuance of a statement by its President on the report (S/15834) of the mission sent by the Secretary-General to civilian areas in Iran and Iraq which had been attacked. It was unable to issue that statement, however, because Iran reversed its decision to accept the formula arrived at during consultations. The report, as everyone knows, contradicted statements by the Iranian régime denying any routine heavy bombardment of Iraqi towns and villages.

5. In 1984 both parties publicly undertook to halt deliberate attacks of any kind against exclusively civilian population centres as of 12 June. Despite that undertaking, the Iranian régime continued to bombard towns, villages and purely residential centres, as witness letters about those violations sent by Iraq to the United Nations (S/16348, S/16624, S/16631, S/16638 and S/16649).

6. In March 1985, as the Security Council discussed the tragic fate of Iraqi prisoners of war on the basis of the report by the mission dispatched by the Secretary-General [*S/16962*], the Iranian régime announced without further ceremony that it intended to bombard the town of Basra. It carried out its threat on 5 March, defending its crime on the grounds that it was a response to the attack launched by Iraq the previous day against the city of Ahwaz. The target of that Iraqi attack was a factory lying close to the town, which was certainly not covered by the aforementioned agreement of 12 June. It should be noted that the Iranian régime took good care not to invoke the detail of that agreement in confirmation of its allegations, just as it refused to guarantee safe conduct for the United Nations team making inquiries in the region of Basra after the deliberate Iranian attack against that city, in flagrant violation of the agreement. The purpose of all these moves was to distract attention from the discussions in the Security Council on the plight of the Iraqi prisoners and to disguise the preparations for the major assault which Iran launched on 12 March across the Hawizah Marshes. The Security Council then intervened and, in a statement dated 15 March 1985 (S/17036), called for a moratorium on attacks on exclusively civilian population centres, in order to bring about a peaceful settlement in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations. Iraq responded favourably (S/17037), but the same can hardly be said of the Iranian régime (S/17039).

7. Since that time the Iranian régime has not relented in its attacks on purely civilian population centres in Iraq and has even increased them appreciably, using ground-to-ground missiles in addition to artillery and aircraft. It stepped up its attacks on towns and inhabited areas every time it sustained a military defeat and heavy losses during its repeated attempts to invade Iraq. In so doing it hoped to cover its tracks, divert attention from its acts of aggression and avoid pressure from the international community to halt the aggression and make peace. Iraq has repeatedly warned against Iran's diversionary tactics, stressing the need to keep the facts clearly in view and remain firm and unbending in order to put a halt to Iran's tortuous manoeuvrings.

8. Iraq has continued to notify you of each Iranian attack against purely civilian population centres in Iraq. The following statistics are intended to enlighten the international community as to Iran's crimes against towns and densely inhabited civilian areas in Iraq.

—Between 1983 and 1988, Iraq sent the United Nations 168 communications on attacks by Iran against exclusively civilian population centres in Iraq, the majority of them containing details of more than one attack.

—Over the same period I personally sent you 16 letters on these attacks.

—Since 1985, the Iranian régime's forces have launched three missiles at Kirkuk and 45 at Baghdad, and Iraq has reported most of these incidents.

* Incorporating document S/19583/Corr. 1 of 8 March 1988.

—Between the outbreak of war and June 1986, attacks by Iranian aircraft and artillery on exclusively civilian population centres numbered 1,024, producing a total of 850 dead, 3,217 wounded and substantial material damage including 596 dwellings destroyed. The number of unexploded missiles and shells over the same period is 8,834. Not a single province in Iraq has been spared in these attacks.

—The number of Iranian attacks on exclusively civilian population centres between the adoption by the Security Council of its binding resolution 598 (1987), on 20 July 1987, and 29 December 1987 rose to 204. For the period from 1 January to 1 March 1988, the number is 44.

9. Iraq does not attack strictly residential areas in Iran and selects as its targets only military or economic objectives, objectives which may legitimately be targeted in an armed conflict in order to diminish the enemy's ability to go on waging war. The Iranian régime, on the other hand, while continuing the war in violation of both the Charter of the United Nations and Security Council resolution 598 (1987), never misses an opportunity to enlarge upon those violations by perpetrating ever more crimes against the civilian populations in Iraq and arguing, at odds with all the facts, that it only mounts attacks on economic or military objectives to retaliate against Iraq.

10. On numerous occasions Iraq has shown the utmost restraint, refraining from responding to Iran's crimes in the hope that the Tehran régime will finally see reason and begin to move towards peace. We would remind you in this regard of the many letters we have sent you over the past year reaffirming the constructive attitude taken by Iraq to enable the international community to act on the plan adopted by the Security Council for a peaceful, comprehensive, just, honourable and lasting settlement of the conflict. On 13 October 1987 I informed you (S/19205) that the Iranian régime had just committed a foul crime against the civilian population of Iraq for the third time in a week, firing a ground-to-ground missile at the city of Baghdad. The missile struck the Balat Al-Shouhada school and neighbouring houses reserved for teachers, leaving 33 people dead, including 29 children and 2 women, and 318 wounded, including 196 children and 11 women. On 9 November once again I drew your attention to another such crime by the Iranian régime. It had just fired another missile at Baghdad while the Extraordinary Arab Summit Conference was in progress at Amman, thus issuing a challenge not only to Iraq but to all the Arab States which had gathered to emphasize the need to reach a peaceful settlement. As a result of that criminal attack, 6 children and 4 women were killed and 106 people, including 41 women and 48 children, were wounded; 10 buildings were destroyed and 20 others damaged; 8 private vehicles and a number of businesses suffered damage (S/19258). In total, 18 missiles have been fired at Baghdad since the adoption of resolution 598 (1987). Iraq's policy of moderation has been in vain, because the Iranian régime has continued with its acts of aggression and its expansionism, making war and destruction its only policy.

11. It was, as usual, Iran which revived the war of the cities. On 27 February 1988 Iraqi aircraft launched a raid on an Iranian oil refinery more than 10 kilometres outside Tehran. The Iranian régime then threatened to bomb alleged economic and military facilities in Baghdad and Basra and called on the civilian population to evacuate those two cities, leading an Iraqi military spokesman to issue a stern warning to the Iranian leaders and put them on notice that if they carried out their threat, acting against the civilian population and exclusively residential areas, they would provoke a violent reaction by Iraq. Despite that warning, throughout the night of 27/28 February and the next day the Iranian régime bombarded Basra, Zubayr, Qurnah, Khanaqin and Badrah with heavy artillery and missiles, leaving many civilians, including women and children, dead and wounded and destroying civilian property. Additionally, on 29 February the criminal Iranian régime fired two ground-to-ground missiles at two residential areas of the city of Baghdad, leaving many civilians, including women and children, dead and wounded and destroying or damaging a number of dwellings, businesses and private vehicles. These facts irrefutably show that the Iranian régime has in every case been the first to attack. On this occasion it was the Iranian régime which began the hostilities by bombarding towns and exclusively residential sectors. It must bear full responsibility for that act. Iraq, as indicated in the two letters we sent to you on 29 February 1988 [*S/19554 and S/19555*] has once again been compelled to react.

12. Once again, to escape possible reprisals, the Iranian régime is engaging in its time-honoured tactic of shuffling the cards and diverting the international community's attention from its crimes and its refusal to comply with Security Council resolution 598 (1987), which is binding in effect.

13. We reaffirm the right of our people, who aspire to live in freedom, peace and dignity, to resist the crimes of the Iranian régime and exercise their right to self-defence.

(*Signed*) Tariq AZIZ
Deputy Prime Minister and
Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq

DOCUMENT S/19584

Letter dated 6 March 1988 from the representative of Iraq to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Arabic*]
[*7 March 1988*]

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith the statement by the spokesman for the Iranian Ministry of Foreign Affairs insisting on the continuation of the war against Iraq and refuting the allegations of the Permanent Representative of the Iranian régime in New York to the effect that there is a change in the Iranian régime's position on Security Council resolution 598 (1987). This statement was issued on 5 March 1988.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ismat KITTANI
Permanent Representative of Iraq
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Statement by the Iranian Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Following the aggressor Iraqi régime's escalation of its crimes and its missile strikes on residential areas, the spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs declared that Saddam's régime, which imagines that it is possible that the Iranian people may change its positions on the imposed war, had escalated its military crimes against hospitals and residential neighbourhoods in order to force international forums, including the Security Council, to adopt a resolution against the Islamic Republic of Iran, while the countries which called daily, through the information media, for peace kept silent and immobile. The speaker added that those international circles and heads of State that had formerly regarded the operations of the Islamic Republic of Iran at the war fronts which were aimed at the establishment of a lasting peace as a move contrary to peace and international security had now begun to regard the missile attacks on residential areas in cities and the killing of women, children and hospital patients as an attempt to establish peace and implement Security Council resolution 598 (1987). The speaker added that Saddam's inhumane régime and his defenders must know that no change had occurred in the just positions of the Islamic Republic of Iran about ending the war and that any political endeavours would be futile unless, as a first step, Iraq was identified as the aggressor and this régime was punished. The retaliatory operations and the operations of the fighters of Islam at the war fronts would continue in order to halt these crimes and would not leave this criminal whose crimes against innocent persons are increasing by the hour any way of escape.

DOCUMENT S/19585

Algeria, Argentina, Nepal, Senegal, Yugoslavia and Zambia: draft resolution

[*Original: English*]
[*7 March 1988*]

The Security Council,

Recalling its resolutions on the question of South Africa, in particular resolutions 392 (1976), 417 (1977) and 473 (1980),

Recalling also its resolution 569 (1985) of 26 July 1985, in which it determined that the imposition of the state of emergency in thirty-six districts of the Republic of South Africa constitutes a grave deterioration of the situation in that country,

Deeply concerned at the worsening of the situation in South Africa and at the continuance and worsening of the human suffering resulting from the *apartheid* system of the South African racist régime and its renewal, reinforcement and extension of the state of emergency to cover the entire country,

Further concerned at the South African racist régime's almost total censorship of the media, in particular its ban on the coverage of events in the black townships,

Outraged at the banning/restriction on 23 February 1988 of seventeen democratic mass organizations and eighteen individuals, including Archie Gumede and Albertina Sisulu, all organizations and individuals committed to peaceful forms of struggle,

Convinced that the banning/restriction of those democratic organizations and individuals, all committed to peaceful forms of struggle, undermines the possibilities of a peaceful resolution of the South African conflict,

Convinced also that the violence and repression by the South African racist régime have greatly aggravated the situation in South Africa and will inevitably lead to violent conflict and racial conflagration with serious international repercussions,

Convinced further that the Pretoria régime's intransigent refusal to co-operate with the international efforts in search of a peaceful solution to the escalating conflict in South Africa compels the international community to impose, as a first step, selective mandatory sanctions under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations,

Acting under Chapter VII of the Charter in discharge of its responsibilities for the maintenance of international peace and security,

Reiterating its condemnation of the *apartheid* policy and practices of the South African régime and South Africa's continued defiance of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations as well as its designs to entrench further the *apartheid* system,

Reaffirming that only the total eradication of *apartheid* and the establishment of a non-racial democratic society based on majority rule, through the full and free exercise of adult suffrage by all the people in a united and unfragmented South Africa, can lead to a just, equitable and lasting solution to the South African situation,

Mindful of its responsibilities under the Charter for the maintenance of international peace and security:

1. *Condemns* the continuing intensification of repression by the South African racist régime such as the arbitrary mass arrest and detention, torture in detention and murder of the leaders and activists of mass organizations, including children, the near total muzzling of the press, the maintenance and expansion of the state of emergency and, in particular, the restriction of seventeen mass organizations and eighteen individuals committed to peaceful forms of struggle;

2. *Declares* that racist South Africa's intransigent refusal to comply with the relevant decisions of the Security Council and the resolutions of the General Assembly constitutes a direct challenge to the authority of the United Nations and a violation of the principles of the Charter of the United Nations;

3. *Determines* that the policies and practices of *apartheid* pursued by the Pretoria racist régime, which are the root cause of the grave and deteriorating situation in South Africa and in southern Africa as a whole, constitute a serious threat to international peace and security;

4. *Decides*, under Chapter VII of the Charter and in conformity with its responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security, to impose the following mandatory sanctions against South Africa, in accordance with Article 41:

(*a*) Cessation of further investment in, and financial loans to, South Africa;

(*b*) Ban on the importation of iron and steel;

(*c*) An end to all promotion of and support for trade with South Africa;

(*d*) Prohibition of the sale of kruggerands and all other coins minted in South Africa;

(*e*) Cessation of all forms of military, police or intelligence co-operation with the authorities of South Africa, in particular the sale of computer equipment;

(*f*) Cessation of the export and sale of oil to South Africa;

5. *Calls upon* all Member States, in conformity with Article 25 of the Charter, to implement the present resolution;

6 *Requests* the specialized agencies to ensure the effective implementation of the present resolution;

7. *Urges* States not members of the United Nations to act in accordance with the provisions of the present resolution;

8. *Decides* to establish, in accordance with rule 28 of its provisional rules of procedure, a committee of the Security Council to monitor the implementation of the present resolution;

9. *Calls upon* all States to report to the Secretary-General on measures taken to implement the present resolution;

10. *Also decides* that these measures shall, in the first instance, remain in force for a period of twelve months, after which the Security Council shall meet again to determine whether the South African régime has fully met the following requirements:

(*a*) Abolished *apartheid*;

(*b*) Rescinded the ban on all political parties and other mass democratic movements;

(*c*) Released all political prisoners;

(*d*) Allowed the return of all exiles, without fear of arrest;

(*e*) Commenced meaningful dialogue with the genuine leaders of the majority of the South African people;

11. *Further decides* that should the Security Council determine that the South African régime has not fulfilled the above requirements it shall renew or increase, as it deems necessary, the measures specified in paragraph 4 above;

12. *Invites* the Secretary-General to report to the Security Council on the progress of the implementation of the present resolution and to submit his first report not later than 7 March 1989.

DOCUMENT S/19586*

Letter dated 4 March 1988 from the representative of Thailand to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*7 March 1988*]

Upon instructions from my Government, and with reference to my earlier note to you concerning the situation along the Thai-Lao border in the vicinity of Romklao village [*S/19545*], Chart Trakarn district, Phitsanulok province, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the translation of the joint press statement of the delegations of the Thai and Lao Governments, issued at Bangkok on 4 March 1988.

In this connection, I have further the honour to request that the present letter and its annex be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Nitya PIBULSONGGRAM
Permanent Representative of Thailand to the United Nations

ANNEX

Joint press statement of the delegations of the Thai and Lao Governments issued at Bangkok on 4 March 1988

1. On 3 and 4 March 1988, the delegations of the Royal Thai Government, headed by M. R. Kasem Samosorn Kasemsri, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and of the Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, headed by Brigadier General Thongsay Kommasith, Deputy Chief of the General Political Department of the Lao People's Armed Forces, met at Bangkok in order to find a solution to the Thai-Lao boundary problem in the area where Phitsanulok and Sayaboury provinces adjoin. The delegations of both Governments held a frank exchange of views in a brotherly spirit and with the determination to find a durable solution to the Thai-Lao boundary problem in the area.

2. Both delegations extensively considered the points of law involved and presented evidence, including maps of the area where Phitsanulok and Sayaboury provinces adjoin. The meeting further considered the Thai proposal for the establishment of a joint committee to resolve their border demarcation problem through survey, verification and demarcation by adhering to righteousness on the basis of the provisions of the Franco-Siamese treaty of 1907 and relevant maps. In this connection, the Lao delegation agreed to submit this matter to its Government and will notify the Thai side of the results within an appropriate time.

3. The delegations of both Governments agreed to recommend to their respective Governments to revive and improve the work of the Joint Thai-Lao Co-operation Committee at the national and local levels, set up in accordance with the joint communiqué of the heads of the Government of both countries in 1979 with a view to strengthening relations and promoting co-operation between Thailand and the Lao People's Democratic Republic so as to realize their mutual goal.

4. Noting a step forward in the process of political negotiation, both sides agreed that the cease-fire as agreed upon by the Thai-Lao military delegations on 17 February 1988, at Bangkok, shall remain in effect.

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/205-S/19586.

DOCUMENT S/19588*

Letter dated 7 March 1988 from the representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Russian*]
[*7 March 1988*]

I have the honour to enclose the text of a statement issued on 6 March 1988 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the USSR concerning the banning by the South African Government of the activity of a number of democratic organizations.

I request you to arrange for the circulation of the statement as an official document of the General Assembly and

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/207-S/19588.

of the Security Council, and to bring it to the attention of the Council for Namibia, the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the Special Committee against *Apartheid*.

(*Signed*) A. M. BELONOGOV
Permanent Representative of
the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Statement of 6 March 1988 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the USSR

The racist authorities in South Africa have recently decided to ban political activity by a number of mass democratic organizations, including the United Democratic Front and the Congress of South African Trade Unions. Such is the challenge issued by the *apartheid* régime to all decent people in South Africa who advocate freedom and justice and oppose oppression and deprivation of rights. This constitutes yet another vain attempt on its part to crush the growing resistance to the racist order and suppress the wave of activity by democratic anti-racist organizations whose membership comprises representatives of all races and strata of society.

The authorities in Pretoria should long ago have realized that South Africa's future is linked not with suppression of its people's struggle against the *apartheid* system, but with the cessation of repression and the transition to a mode of thinking which would make it possible to put an end to the shame of *apartheid* and unite the efforts of all South Africans in the cause of establishing a united, democratic, non-racial State.

Apartheid is doomed, and neither the new wave of terror and repression, nor the continuing occupation of Namibia, nor the acts of armed aggression against the front-line African States will save it. The reliance on force and terror and on suppression of the people's rights and freedoms bears witness not to the régime's strength but to its weakness and demonstrates its moral bankruptcy and vicious nature.

The war which the racist authorities have now declared against those organizations which advocate non-violent forms of struggle demonstrates yet again the scorn with which Pretoria treats the South African people's pursuit of freedom and basic human rights. The Pretoria régime also openly disregards the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[3]—the fortieth anniversary of whose adoption will be celebrated in the United Nations this year—the International Covenants on Human Rights[14] and the 1948 Convention concerning freedom of association and protection of the right to organize.

The international community cannot feel itself secure when universal human values and the moral and ethical standards of civilization are being trampled underfoot in South Africa. The United Nations long ago proclaimed the illegality of the régime based on racial discrimination, describing its actions as a gross breach of international law, a threat to peace and security and a crime against humanity.

By its actions the South African Government is tightening still further the knot of conflict in southern Africa. Under the circumstances, the world community must take effective steps to compel South Africa onto the course of a just political settlement in the region. The embargo on the supply of arms to South Africa imposed by the Security Council must be fully, firmly and scrupulously observed. Faith in the authority of international law cannot be allowed to be lost. It is time to take the next step—to introduce comprehensive mandatory sanctions against the *apartheid* régime under Chapter VII of the Charter.

The veto which has more than once been employed in the Security Council against the adoption of decisions on sanctions is tantamount to patronage of the racists. It is a veto also against democratization and humanity, against the exercise of human rights and freedoms in South Africa. One may rightly ask how this veto is to be reconciled with the statements of those who use it about their devotion to human rights and the principles of self-determination and freedom of peoples. The further anti-democratic action of the racist régime cannot be allowed to pass unpunished yet again.

In the Soviet Union, the escalation of the policy of *apartheid* arouses anger and indignation. Continuation of the repressions will lead to the further escalation of tension and violence in South Africa, to increased instability and a deterioration of the situation throughout a region which, through the fault of the Pretoria régime, is one of the planet's hot spots. All of this cannot fail to cause serious concern.

The USSR is ready to go hand in hand with all those who are attached to the lofty principles of the United Nations and the ideals of freedom and equality of rights. The time has come for action, and decisive action, to eradicate *apartheid* and put an end to the conflict situation in southern Africa.

DOCUMENT S/19589

Letter dated 7 March 1988 from the representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the President of the Security Council

[*Original: Russian*]
[*7 March 1988*]

On the instructions of my Government, I have the honour to request an urgent meeting of the Security Council in connection with the further acute escalation of the conflict between Iran and Iraq.

(*Signed*) A. BELONOGOV
Permanent Representative
of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19590

Letter dated 7 March 1988 from the representative of Iraq to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Arabic*]
[*7 March 1988*]

On instructions from my Government, and with reference to the letter from Mr. Tariq Aziz, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq, dated 5 March 1988 and issued as document S/19583, I have the honour to inform you that the aggressive and expansionist Iranian régime has fired seven ground-to-ground missiles at the city of Baghdad: on 3 March, at 6.25 a.m., 1.30 p.m. and 6.15 p.m.; on 4 March at 4.55 p.m.; and on 5 March at 6.17 a.m., 7.44 p.m. and 9.26 p.m.

The missiles struck residential districts of Baghdad, killing and wounding a number of the civilian population, including women and children, and damaging dwellings and private property.

I should be grateful if you would arrange for the text of this letter to be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ismat KITTANI
Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19591

Letter dated 7 March 1988 from the representative of Iraq to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Arabic*]
[*7 March 1988*]

On instructions from my Government and further to our many previous letters concerning the Iranian régime's persistence in shelling exclusively residential districts in Iraq, I have the honour to inform you that on 3, 4, 5 and 6 March 1988, the forces of that régime committed the acts of aggression described in the annex to this letter.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ismat KITTANI
Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations

ANNEX

Iranian bombardment

Time	*Sector*	*Number of shells*	*Casualties and damage*
3 March			
0720 to 1635	City of Basra, Al-Ishar, Al-Ribat, Al-Tuwaysah, Abassiyah, Al-Salimi, Al-Hakimiyah, Al-Jumhuriyah, Al-Ma'qil, Sa'd Square, Sikak Mi'ziha, Al-Kuwaz, Al-Saudiyah and Manawi Basha sectors	174, including 20 missiles	1 civilian killed and 3 wounded, including 1 woman; a number of dwellings and businesses damaged
0630 to 1230	Diyala governorate: Khanaqin district, Qaraniyah sector	61	1 dwelling destroyed, 2 dwellings and 4 vehicles damaged
0730 to 1700	Maysan governorate: Ali al-Gharbi district	50	
0025 to 0640	Wasit governorate: Badrah district	15	
4 March			
1150 to 1500	Basra governorate: Qurnah district	125	4 dwellings and 1 vehicle damaged
1635 to 1909	Basra governorate: Qurnah district	37, including 10 rockets	5 vehicles damaged

Time	*Sector*	*Number of shells*	*Casualties and damage*
1730 to 1745	Maysan governorate: Qala't Salih Safaniyah sector	12	
2155 to 2300	Sulaymaniyah governorate: Qala Diza and its environs		
1700 to 2150	Diyala governorate: Khanaqin district	62	1 house destroyed and 5 damaged
1815 to 2100	Wasit governorate: Badrah district	27	
5 March			
1935 to 0600	City of Basra, Al-Buradi'iyah, Al-Saudiyah, Al-Ishar, the Corniche and Al-Harithah sectors	31, including 10 rockets	1 civilian wounded; 1 hotel and 1 private vehicle damaged
1042 to 1400	Basra governorate: the silo, Al-Jubaylah, Al-Hakimiyah, Matiha, Old Basra, the Corniche, Al-Jaza'ir, Al-Qiblah, and Manawi Basha sectors	62	2 vehicles damaged
0755 to 1414	Centre of the town of Sulaymaniyah	46	3 civilians, including 2 children, killed and 26 others, including 11 children and 9 women, wounded; 10 dwellings and 1 vehicle destroyed, 10 dwellings and 2 vehicles damaged
0700 to 0800	Wasit governorate: Badrah district	20	
1200 to 1345	Badrah district	14	
6 March			
1750 to 1815	Maysan governorate: Qala't Salih, Hay Karama sector	5	5 civilians, including 3 children and 1 woman, wounded; 1 dwelling damaged
2005 to 2140	Wasit governorate: Badrah district	45	
1945 to 2200	Diyala governorate: town of Khanaqin	26	
2222 to 0045	Centre of the city of Basra	3	
1116 to 1800	Diyala governorate: Khanaqin district	25	1 civilian wounded; 1 dwelling, 1 primary school and 1 vehicle damaged
2000 to 2115	Wasit governorate: Badrah district	56	
0616 to 1300	Maysan governorate: Hay Ufiyah, Qal'at Salih district	71	1 civilian killed and 3 wounded; 5 dwellings damaged
0830 to 1520	Centre of the city of Basra, Al-Buradi'iyah, Al-Dakir, Al-Ma'atiyah, Al-Tuwaysah, Al-Jubaylah, Al-Hakimiyah, Al-Saudiyah, Al-Tahsiniyah, Al-Ishar, Al-Junaynah, Al-Sir[illegible], Al-Khandaq, Al-Ma'qil, Sahu[illegible] Uns districts	173	1 child killed, 16 civilians, including 2 children and 1 woman, wounded; 7 dwellings and 87 businesses damaged, 1 house burnt down and 1 business destroyed
0757	Arbil governorate: capital of the governorate	Bombs dropped by 2 aircraft	2 civilians, including 1 woman, killed
2230 to 2316	Diyala governorate: Khanaqin district	117	1 woman wounded
0630 to 0945	Wasit governorate: Badrah district	58	2 women wounded, 1 house destroyed
1020 to 1220	Maysan governorate: Ali al-Gharbi district	19	

DOCUMENT S/19592

Letter dated 7 March 1987 from the representative of Israel to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*7 March 1988*]

At 7 o'clock this morning, three PLO terrorists seized a Renault vehicle south of Beersheba. They opened fire and threw grenades indiscriminately while driving on the Beersheba Dimona highway. They then seized a bus and took nine passengers as hostages, eight of whom were women. The bus was finally stopped by the Israel Defense Forces. The terrorists demanded the release of PLO terrorists in Israeli jails. To back up their demands, they murdered the male hostage, Victor Ran, a 39-year-old widower and father of three. They then murdered two of the women, Rina Shirtsky, a 31-year-old mother of two, and Miriam Ben Yair, a 46-year-old mother of four. Security forces stormed the bus and killed the terrorists.

This latest attack came only a few days after a foiled car-bomb attempt on the life of U.S. Secretary of State Shultz in Jerusalem (4 March), and another car-bomb attempt in the Israeli town of Kfar Sava (3 March). A week earlier, three PLO terrorists were intercepted en route to Israel with orders to murder civilians in the Israeli town of Nahariya. A similar group was intercepted yesterday en route to Kibbutz Malkiyah where they were planning to seize hostages.

These recent attacks are significant for three reasons:

1. All were carried out by Fatah, the main branch of the PLO headed by Yasser Arafat;
2. All were directed against civilians in the heart of Israel;
3. All were timed to scuttle progress toward peace negotiations, as is readily apparent by the attempt to murder Secretary Shultz.

Last week in the General Assembly I spoke of the conflict between the PLO charter and the Charter of the UN. The PLO's campaign of terror is meant not only to kill Israelis and annihilate Israel, but to murder the idea of peace itself. Such an organization and such a programme has no place in the United Nations.

I have the honour to request that this letter be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Benjamin NETANYAHU
Permanent Representative of Israel
to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19593

Letter dated 7 March 1988 from the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*8 March 1988*]

I have the honour to enclose herewith the text of a note verbale dated 18 February 1988 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Embassy of Italy in Tehran.

It would be appreciated if this letter and its annex were circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammad Ja'afar MAHALLATI
Acting Permanent Representative
of the Islamic Republic of Iran
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Note verbale dated 18 February 1988 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Embassy of Italy in Tehran

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran presents its compliments to the Embassy of Italy in Tehran and has the honour to inform it that, according to the information provided by the pertinent officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran, on 17 January 1988, at 0905 hours, Italian ship No. 572 at the position of 26°31′ N and 56°22′ E warned an Iranian sea-patrol aircraft at the position of 26°42′ N and 56°24′ E, flying over Iranian territorial waters, not to fly closer to the ship.

In view of the fact that the action of the Italian ship was in contravention of all rules of international law and violated the sovereign territorial rights of Iranian aircraft to overflight in Iranian territorial waters, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran strongly protests such actions and demands an immediate end to them.

Evidently, responsibility for the consequences of all such future actions lies directly with the Government of Italy.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Embassy of Italy the assurances of its highest consideration.

Hoping for the victory of the oppressed over oppressors.

DOCUMENT S/19594

Letter dated 7 March 1988 from the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*8 March 1988*]

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that on 5 March 1988, the criminal régime of Iraq, in continuation of its savage attacks against Tehran and other cities of the Islamic Republic of Iran, at 0508, 0822, 1208, 1212 and 1354 hours (local time) brought Tehran under missile attacks, as a result of which 17 civilians were martyred and 68 injured. On the same day, the Iraqi régime also aerially bombarded Hamadan, which fortunately resulted in no casualties.

It would be highly appreciated if this letter were circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammad Ja'afar MAHALLATI
Acting Permanent Representative
of the Islamic Republic of Iran
to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19595

Letter dated 9 March 1988 from the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*9 March 1988*]

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you of the following statistics on the aerial attacks by the criminal régime of Iraq against the cities and residential areas of my country on Sunday, 6 March 1988.

Time	*City*	*Martyrs*	*Wounded*
1105	Ilam	—	9
1155	Sanandaj	3	96
1205	Saqqez	12	8
1350	Arak	—	—
1350	Khorramabad	8	85
1325	Boroujerd	3	4
1350	Boroujerd	1	51
1210	Miandoab	2	several
1520	Shooshtar	1	6
1330	Toyserkan	5	32
1330	Nahavand	9	29
1425	Dezful	6	36
1910	Ghazvin	—	—

It would be highly appreciated if this letter were circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammad Ja'afar MAHALLATI
Acting Permanent Representative
of the Islamic Republic of Iran
to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19597*

Letter dated 9 March 1988 from the representative of Panama to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Spanish*]
[*9 March 1988*]

I have the honour to bring urgently to your attention yesterday's announcement by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Panama, Mr. Jorge Abadía Arias, that certain military exercises which the United States is illegally conducting in Panama constitute the prelude to an armed invasion of my country.

At a press conference held yesterday in Panama City, Minister Abadía drew the attention of international public opinion to a further act of aggression by the United States against Panama involving the mobilization of troops of the Florida and Puerto Rico National Guards for the conduct in Panamanian territory of military exercises known as "Total Warrior".

These armed troops have been mobilized unilaterally on Panamanian soil without the authorization of the national Government, without the necessary co-ordination with the Defence Forces of Panama pursuant to the Torrijos-Carter treaties,[15] and in open violation of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Panama.

On behalf of the Republic of Panama, Minister Abadía registered a strong protest against the conduct of these military manoeuvres, which are illegal, arbitrary and a violation of national sovereignty, and warned that they are a sign of imminent armed action by the United States against Panama.

In drawing to your attention the fact that this new threat of the use of force against Panama endangers peace and security in the region, I request you to have this letter circulated urgently as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Jorge Eduardo RITTER
Permanent Representative of Panama
to the United Nations

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/209-S/19597.

DOCUMENT S/19598

Letter dated 10 March 1988 from the representative of Iraq to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Arabic*]
[*10 March 1988*]

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you the text of a statement made by the official spokesman for the Iraqi Revolution Command Council.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ismat KITTANI
Permanent Representative of Iraq
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Statement by the spokesman for the Revolution Command Council of Iraq

The President and Supreme Commander, Saddam Hussein, this morning chaired a meeting of the Revolution Command Council and the Regional Command of the Arab Baath Socialist Party. An official spokesman made the following statement after the meeting.

The record of Iranian aggression against Iraq shows that the aggression began with the heavy-artillery bombardment of Iraqi cities on 4 September 1980. The Iraqi cities were spared from bombardment only during the period when our courageous troops forced the aggressive Iranian military hordes into retreat. Meanwhile, Iranian aircraft continued their intensive raids on Iraqi cities, targeting the civilian population and civilian sites. The bombing was reduced only as a result of a crushing blow dealt to the Iranian air force, whose ability to strike Iraqi cities and villages was thus diminished. Nevertheless, it continued its cowardly bombing whenever it found the means to do so.

The malicious Iranian régime resumed its bombardment of Iraqi cities and villages all along the border, and particularly of the indomitable city of Basra (Iraq's second city in terms of population), with heavy artillery and all other weapons following the withdrawal of our forces to international borders in June 1982. The Iranian hordes once again approached Iraqi cities close to the border, as they had done at the beginning of the Iranian aggression against Iraq on 4 September 1980.

At that time we were obliged to reply in kind to Iran's attacks on our people. The Iranian régime proceeded to spread misleading propaganda on the subject. In a sincere desire for peace and wishing to spare the civilian population from the scourges of war, Iraq called for the conclusion of a special agreement between the two countries, prohibiting attacks on residential targets, in a letter sent by the President and Supreme Commander, Saddam Hussein, to the peoples of Iran on 7 June 1983. Iran did not accept that proposal.

When the Security Council adopted resolution 540 (1983) of 31 October 1983, calling for the immediate cessation of all military operations against civilian targets, including cities and residential areas, Iraq accepted the resolution immediately. Iran rejected the resolution and continued its evil bombardment of Iraqi cities, calculating that it had an advantage in that respect which would enable it to inflict damage on Iraq and thus pursue its aggressive and expansionist aims.

In 1984 Iran launched a large-scale attack against Iraq. It began the attack by bombarding Iraqi cities, particularly Basra and Amarah, which were selected as principal targets for the attack. However, the Iranian régime, whose attack was repelled by a vigorous Iraqi response, found itself under heavy pressure from the Iraqis, as the Iraqi air force had acquired the capacity to reply in kind and to inflict punishment on the evil aggressors. As a result of Iraq's predominance, it became possible to reach an understanding with the Secretary-General of the United Nations on 12 June 1984 relating to the avoidance of attacks against purely residential targets. Iraq has used, and will continue to use, its capacity and predominance to affirm the values of peace. However, no sooner had the Iranian régime subsequently acquired surface-to-surface missiles from certain known sources than—believing it had acquired an advantage in that area—it began to prepare the way for a resumption of the war of the cities.

While the Security Council was discussing the tragedy of prisoners of war, on the basis of the report of the Secretary-General's mission [*S/16962*], the Iranian régime devised exuses to resume its bombardment of Iraqi cities on 5 March 1985. On this occasion it used surface-to-surface missiles to bombard Baghdad and Kirkuk, in the belief that the missiles it

had acquired would improve its position in the conflict and prepare the ground for the large-scale attack which it launched against Iraq a few days later, on 12 March 1985. Throughout subsequent years, the Iranian régime has continued to bombard Iraqi cities, particularly Basra, Amarah, Khanaqin, Sulaymaniyah and others which lie within the reach of their long-range heavy artillery. It has also continued to bombard Baghdad in particular with those missiles of whose destructive force it has bragged and boasted. The régime claims to have manufactured the missiles itself, but the whole world knows whence it acquired them, and by what despicable means. Iraq has drawn attention to these criminal actions in letters and documents sent to international organizations, and particularly to the United Nations. Accredited diplomatic missions in Iraq and representatives of the United Nations, the Red Cross and the Arab and foreign press have witnessed the aftermath of Iranian bombardment of residential areas, schools and hospitals and have seen with their own eyes the bodies of women and children killed by Iranian missiles and bombs.

Iraq transmitted 168 communications to the United Nations concerning Iranian attacks against purely residential centres in Iraq during the period from 1983 up to the end of February 1988. The Minister for Foreign Affairs sent 17 letters to the Secretary-General; dozens of other letters were sent by the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations, and more letters were sent to the International Committee of the Red Cross and other international bodies. Since the Iranian régime acquired the missiles of which it has come to be so proud, it has fired three missiles at the city of Kirkuk and 39 (as of 29 February 1988) at our capital, Baghdad. Since the international community issued its pronouncement on the need for peace, through the Security Council in the form of resolution 598 (1987), the Iranian régime has (as of 1 March 1988) launched 248 attacks against purely residential centres in Iraq and fired 26 surface-to-surface missiles at Baghdad.

This fully documented record, which has been transmitted to the United Nations and other international bodies, shows that it was Iran which began the war by attacking Iraqi cities and Iran which used the war of the cities as an important component of its expansionist campaign against Iraq. It also shows that Iran began the missile war by firing missiles at Baghdad and Kirkuk, beginning in March 1985.

In 1986 and 1987 the Iranian régime frantically tried to provoke Iraq by bombarding our cities with heavy artillery and intermediate-range missiles and by firing long-range missiles at Baghdad, in an attempt to sow confusion and to obstruct the peace efforts of the international community in preparation for an attack against Iraq. We, however, did not respond, despite the losses we suffered and despite the casualties inflicted upon our women and children. We should mention, *inter alia*, their abhorrent crime in bombing the Balat al-Shuhada School and their firing of a missile at Baghdad on the very day when the Extraordinary Arab Summit Conference was convened at Amman, in a direct challenge to the Arab community and an expression of scorn towards its sincere desire for peace.

Such is the record of the Iranian régime, and such is the record of Iraq. Peace-loving Iraq, which has expressed its serious and sincere desire for peace through its constructive and responsible acceptance of all international initiatives and resolutions, had no desire whatsoever to resort to these means. However, despite the understanding and patience it has shown, it has been obliged on some occasions to respond. When it has responded, its response has been vigorous and decisive, demonstrating the extent of its power. Iraq's sincere desire for peace is matched by its outstanding power to defend its sovereignty, security and the lives of its population and is based not on weakness, but on wisdom, understanding and a sense of responsibility.

On this as on other occasions it was the criminal Iranian régime which began the war of the cities.

The Iranian régime exploited a bombing raid made by the aircraft of our capable air force against an oil refinery 10 kilometres from Tehran, an operation falling within the context of its natural and constant activity of striking Iranian economic centres. The Iranian régime exploited this natural event and, on 27 February, issued a warning of the bombardment of Baghdad, Basra and other Iraqi cities. We immediately, on the very same day, issued an express warning and said that, if it made another attack on residential centres in our cities, our retaliation would be strong and comprehensive and that Tehran and all Iranian cities would be targets for our missiles, aircraft bombs and other weapons.

However, the Iranian régime, whose conduct is governed by motives of death and destruction and which is caught in the snares of delusions that it concocts for itself, based its calculations on its assumed superiority in this field by reason of its possession of missiles and thought that what we had announced concerning Iraq's success in manufacturing missiles that could reach Tehran was merely a boast, because it lives on lies and unfounded assumptions and imagines that others share its base qualities. The evil-natured Tehran rulers based their calculations on this, challenged the mighty people of Iraq and launched two missiles against the city of Baghdad on 29 February, killing women and children and destroying houses and civilian property, and bombarded Basra, Amarah and other notable Iraqi cities with a flood of heavy artillery shells and rockets. Because of this, it was our duty to retaliate and our duty to make our retaliation decisive and strong.

We need not recall here the clear interrelationship between the Zionist and the Iranian plans of aggression. In July 1982, the Iranian régime began its widespread aggression against Iraq, taking the mighty city of Basra as its target. It bombarded Basra intensively, while, at the same time, the Zionist forces of invasion were proceeding to occupy Beirut and pound it with artillery and missiles, with the aim of liquidating the resistance of the Palestinian Arab people.

At the current time, when the uprising of the Palestinian Arab people in the occupied territories is escalating and placing the Zionist entity in a severe dilemma—at this very time, the régime of vagabond tricksters in Tehran is providing a service to their Zionist allies by escalating the war of the cities for the purpose of diverting attention from the uprising, creating confusion in the region and perpetuating the state of war, aggression, tension and occupation to which it and its allies in Tel Aviv contribute and by which they live, in response to the services rendered it by its allies in Tel Aviv in the continuation of its war of aggression against Iraq and the Arab nation.

Since 29 February, Iraq has begun to give the tyrannical Iranian leaders a harsh lesson.

The al-Hussein missiles that were launched against Tehran, Qum and Isfahan and the bombs from the aircraft of the Iraqi air force were clear messages of warning to the Tehran rulers: messages telling them in concrete terms that the way of war and aggression is a dead end and that the solution lies in peace; messages telling them that the delusions that they have built up about occupying Iraq and imposing their will on it have been shattered one after the other. The delusions based on so-called Iranian human supremacy were smashed when Iraq, vigilant and on the alert, was able to mobilize in defence of its sovereignty, its security and its future, capable and aware men outstandingly armed and outnumbering the backward wretches whom they drove to the battlefronts like cattle.

Also shattered were the hopes based on breaking the Iraqi will by prolonging the duration of the war. The Iraqi will increased in firmness, awareness and intensity in the course of the struggle into which our Iraqi people and its armed forces plunged under the flag of the inspiring leader Saddam Hussein in defence of sovereignty and dignity and in defence of principles, foremost among them a just and honourable peace.

Iraq's achievements in all these fields, particularly in the field of military manufactures, including Hussein missiles, confirm that Iraq's creative capacity is mighty and evolving, whereas deterioration, decline and backwardness are on a sharp increase in Iran because of the persistence of its various criminal rulers in going against the will for life and the movement of history with their insistence on delusions and fabrications and expansionist and aggressive intentions.

The leadership has studied the situation from all angles and considers that the lesson which we have taught to the criminal Tehran rulers was extensive and clear, an Iraqi lesson full of strength and proceeding from the principles and values to which Iraq, the heir of a great civilization and the creator of a great civilization adheres.

At the same time, the leadership noted that some circles had begun to exploit the present situation by giving currency to concepts and schemes aimed at fragmenting the war and focusing on its results at the expense of the global solution envisaged in Security Council resolution 598 (1987). It noted also that other circles had begun to try to profit from this situation prompted by unscrupulous motives.

Since the lesson had been transmitted to the Tehran rulers and in order to strengthen the sincere and serious efforts aimed at stressing the comprehensive peace that can be achieved only through the implementation of resolution 598 (1987) in its entirety, as an inseparable whole and in accordance with the sequence of its operative paragraphs, as drafted by the Council, at today's meeting it was decided to halt the bombardment of Iranian cities by missiles, aircraft and other weapons 24 hours after the date of the issuance of this statement, i.e., at 4 p.m., Baghdad time, tomorrow, Friday, 11 March 1988, on the following terms:

1. Since it was Iran that began the war of the cities by bombarding our glorious capital, Baghdad, in 1985 and that began this time also by launching two missiles against Baghdad on 29 February, the last bombardment operation must be Iraqi, before the cease-fire goes into effect at the above-mentioned time. If the Iranian régime proceeds to bombard any of our

cities with missiles or artillery or by air in retaliation for the last Iraqi bombardment operation, we shall continue the bombardment and teach appropriate lessons to the Tehran rulers by force and in a comprehensive manner.

2. Iraq will resume the bombardment of Iranian cities by all means if the Iranian régime resumes the bombardment of Iraqi cities and villages with artillery or missiles or by air or using any other weapon directed against the civilian population and purely residential centres.

3. Iraq will resume the bombardment of Iranian cities by all means if the Iranian régime attacks any Arab city as it has done in the past.

4. Iraq will resume the bombardment of Iranian cities by all means if the Iranian régime perpetrates any new aggression against our international frontiers and attempts to invade our territory at the key points leading to Iraqi cities. In all the previous invasion attempts, Iraqi cities such as Basra, Amarah, Khanaqin, Sulaymaniyah and others have been targets for the artillery and other weapons of the Iranian régime. This time, we shall retaliate comprehensively for such attempts by bombarding all Iranian cities.

5. It is essential to stress that there is no confusion between the bombardment of economic targets which serve the aggressor war machine and the bombardment of purely residential centres. The Iranian régime has unceasingly pursued its war of aggression against Iraq, and Iraq is therefore entitled to strike at the targets which serve and supply the machinery of aggression and war, as provided in international law.

These are the basic terms which we set forth. They are clear and just. We shall keep to our commitment to stop bombardment of Iranian cities as from 4 p.m. on Friday, but if the Iranian régime violates these terms, we shall be forced to carry out decisive and comprehensive retaliation.

The spokesman emphasized that the international community and, in particular, the Security Council were now called upon to continue the serious and sustained work to ensure the serious implementation of Security Council resolution 598 (1987) by adopting a resolution imposing sanctions on Iran, which had insisted on defying the will of the international community, refused to comply with the binding resolution of the Security Council and continued the war, slaughter and destruction.

DOCUMENT S/19599

Letter dated 10 March 1988 from the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Secretary-General

[Original: English]
[10 March 1988]

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that the criminal régime of Iraq has renewed its tension-creating manoeuvres in the Persian Gulf by attacks against tankers and commercial shipping. At a time when Iraq's inhuman and indeed savage attacks against the cities and residential areas of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the consequent shedding of the blood of innocent Iranian civilians have met with the silence and a blatant absence of any action on the part of the United Nations, Iraq has intensified its activities directed at creating tension and endangering the security of the Persian Gulf.

The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran strongly protests the provocative actions of the régime of Iraq and requests that the United Nations take immediate measures to prevent such attacks by Iraq in the future.

It would be highly appreciated if this letter were circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammad Ja'afar MAHALLATI
Acting Permanent Representative
of the Islamic Republic of Iran
to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19600*

Letter dated 10 March 1988 from the representative of Jamaica to the Secretary-General

[Original: English]
[10 March 1988]

I have the honour to transmit the text of a statement issued by the Government of Jamaica on recent developments in South Africa and to request that the statement be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) L. M. H. BARNETT
Permanent Representative of Jamaica
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Statement issued by the Government of Jamaica

The Government of Jamaica wishes to express its deep condemnation for the latest actions of the *apartheid* régime in arresting Archbishop Tutu of the Anglican Church, Reverend Allan Boesak, a co-founder of the United Democratic Front, and Archbishop Stephen of the Catholic Church and in banning all peaceful activity by 18 extraparliamentary organizations representing the black community in South Africa. In outlawing these organizations, the régime has removed a credible and forceful opposition, thus making it virtually impossible for the oppressed people to articulate their views publicly. These bannings have reinforced the totalitarian posture of the régime. This latest denial of the basic human rights of the black community in South Africa has demonstrated once again the contempt with which Pretoria regards the international community.

In deploring this latest incident, the Government of Jamaica wishes to reiterate that unless the strongest sanctions are applied and the régime further isolated, there will be absolutely no hope for the oppressed people in that country. It is imperative that the international community take effective action now in order to alleviate the suffering of the African people and rid the world of the scourge of *apartheid*.

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/210-S/19600.

DOCUMENT S/19601

Letter dated 10 March 1988 from the representative of Iraq to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Arabic*]
[*11 March 1988*]

On instructions from my Government and further to the letter dated 5 March 1988 addressed to you by Mr. Tariq Aziz, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq [*see S/19583*], and further also to my letter dated 6 March [*S/19584*], I have the honour to inform you that the aggressive expansionist Iranian régime has launched four ground-to-ground missiles against the city of Baghdad and the town of Mosul, as follows:

Date	*Time*	*Place*
6 March	0657	Baghdad
7 March	1815	Nineveh governorate, town of Mosul
7 March	2333	Baghdad
8 March	0003	Baghdad

These missiles fell on residential neighbourhoods and resulted in the death and wounding of a number of citizens, including a number of women and children, and damage to a number of houses.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ismat KITTANI
Permanent Representative of Iraq
to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19602

Letter dated 10 March 1988 from the representative of Iraq to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Arabic*]
[*11 March 1988*]

On instructions from my Government and further to our previous letters concerning the Iranian régime's bombardment of purely residential districts in Iraq, I have the honour to inform you that on 7 and 8 March 1988 the forces of that régime continued their savage bombardment of such districts, as described in the annex to this letter.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ismat KITTANI
Permanent Representative of Iraq
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Iranian bombardment

Time	*Place*	*Number of shells*	*Casualties and damage*
7 March			
0730 to 1725	Basra governorate: city centre, Al-Ma'qil, Al-Jubaylah, Al-Muftiyah, Al-Jumhuriyah, Al-Hakimiyah, Al-Harithah subdistrict and Qurnah district	79	1 citizen killed and 2 injured; damage to 2 houses
0723 to 0736	Arbil governorate: Al-Siddiq district	Raid by 2 aircraft	—

Time	Place	Number of shells	Casualties and damage
0728 to 0738	Sulaymaniyah governorate: Rathbah district	Raid by 1 aircraft	—
0630 to 1454	Sulaymaniyah governorate: environs of the town of Sulaymaniyah	35	—
0645 to 1615	Wasit governorate: Badrah district	39	1 house destroyed
1000 to 1200	Maysan governorate: city centre, Al-Awfiyah quarter, Qal'at Salih district and Ali al-Gharbi	54	—
0645 to 1610	Basra governorate: Al-Ashshar, Al-Sa'udiyah, Al-Dakir, Al-Jazair, Al-Tuwaysah, Old Basra, Al-Harithah subdistrict and Dayr subdistrict	80	2 children killed and 3 citizens wounded, including 2 children; damage to 5 houses; 1 house set on fire; damage to a number of businesses
0630 to 1510	Wasit governorate: town of Badrah	30	—
1205 to 1402	Maysan governorate: Ali al-Gharbi district	30	—
1510 to 1725	Basra governorate: Qurnah district	32	1 child killed; damage to 2 houses
1745 to 2052	Basra governorate: city centre, Al-Habibiyah, Qurnah district, Al-Shush, Dayr subdistrict, Al-Jarahi village and Al-Zuwayn	126	2 citizens wounded; damage to 3 vehicles
1930 to 2130	Diyala governorate: Khanaqin district	162	—
1730 to 1800	Diyala governorate: Khanaqin district and Qazaniyah subdistrict	6	2 citizens injured; damage to 15 houses and 1 civilian vehicle
0900 to 1130	Sulaymaniyah governorate: town of Sayyid Sadiq	—	—
2120 to 2200	Wasit governorate: Badrah district	24	—
1730 to 2130	Diyala governorate: Khanaqin district	—	Damage to 6 houses

DOCUMENT S/19603

Letter dated 11 March 1988 from the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*11 March 1988*]

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to bring the following to your most urgent attention.

Since 1600 hours on Thursday, 10 March 1988, Iraq has intensified, in an unprecedented manner, its dastardly attacks against purely civilian areas of the Islamic Republic of Iran, murdering hundreds of innocent civilians and wounding thousands more.

The following is a partial listing of the Iraqi attacks against civilian quarters from 1600 hours on Thursday to 1330 hours on Friday:

Time	Location	Type of attack
10 March		
1610	Shushtar	Aerial
1620	Ilam	Aerial
1620	Masjid-Suleiman	Aerial
1655	Doroud	Aerial
1700	Khoramabad	Aerial
1725	Hamadan	Aerial
1750	Dezful	Aerial
1800	Bandar-Rig	Aerial
1830	Qom	Missile
1930	Dezful	Aerial
2230	Tehran	Missile
2255	Boroujerd	Aerial
11 March		
0230	Tehran	Missile
0250	Qom	Missile
0440	Tehran	Missile
0835	Dezful	Aerial
0903	Tehran	Missile
0907	Qom	Missile
0907	Hamadan	Aerial
1030	Ilam	Aerial
1040	Baneh	Aerial
1045	Maragheh	Aerial
1215	Rasht	Aerial
1220	Tehran	Missile
1223	Hamadan	Aerial
1252	Tehran	Missile
1307	Tehran	Missile

Exact figures on casualties are not available at this point and will be brought to your attention in due course. It should be noted, however, that the attacks were most intensive during Friday congregational prayers when millions of faithful all over the country were targeted by Iraqi rulers.

The Iraqi policy of resort to the illegal attack and massacre of innocent civilians is well known in the international community. The most recent resumption, escalation and continuation of these attacks since 27 February 1988 is only a continuation of the Iraqi policy of barbarism and total disregard for the most universally recognized rules of international law governing the conduct of armed hostilities.

The unprecedented intensification of inhuman Iraqi attacks against civilians since 1600 hours on Thursday, 10 March is the most clear and unmistakable sign of the lack of seriousness of the Iraqi gesture made at the same hour. Making their observance of a basic norm of international conduct conditional on absurd propositions, the Iraqi rulers have sought every excuse to continue and further escalate their indiscriminate murder of civilians. This is a further indication of Iraqi rejection of appeals made by prominent international personalities for the cessation of its attacks.

The Islamic Republic of Iran, from the beginning of the imposed war as well as in this latest instance of Iraqi resumption of attacks against civilians, has exercised enormous self-restraint. Unfortunately and with reluctance, the Islamic Republic of Iran has had to resort to limited retaliatory measures because its calls on the international community to adopt immediate measures to stop the war crimes of the Iraqi rulers have remained unheeded.

Since 1 March 1988, the Islamic Republic of Iran has responded positively to the appeals made by the Secretary-General, the President of the Security Council and other prominent international figures. It has been prepared to stop its limited retaliatory strikes against Iraq, if the international community compels Iraq to halt its bombardments of civilian areas.

The Islamic Republic of Iran once again calls on the international community, particularly the Secretary-General and the Security Council of the United Nations, immediately to adopt effective measures in order to bring about an end to Iraqi acts of lawlessness and savagery. The Islamic Republic of Iran would welcome and co-operate with any international effort to achieve this end and would immediately halt its retaliatory measures.

However, in the absence of immediate, unambiguous, strong and effective measures by the international community, the Islamic Republic of Iran has no other alternative but to take necessary measures in legitimate self-defence. The war crimes of the Iraqi régime have only strengthened the resolve of Iranian people to resist Iraqi aggression and respond effectively to Iraqi crimes.

It would be highly appreciated if this letter were immediately circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammad Ja'afar MAHALLATI
Acting Permanent Representative
of the Islamic Republic of Iran
to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19604

Letter dated 11 March 1988 from the representative of Argentina to the President of the Security Council

[*Original: Spanish*]
[*11 March 1988*]

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to request a meeting of the Security Council to consider the situation created in the South Atlantic by the British Government's decision to conduct military manoeuvres in the Malvinas Islands from 7 to 31 March 1988.

(*Signed*) Marcelo E. R. DELPECH
Permanent Representative of Argentina
to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19605

Letter dated 11 March 1988 from the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*11 March 1988*]

Upon instructions from my Government and pursuant to my previous letter dated 11 March 1988 [*S/19603*], I have the honour to inform you of other most recent attacks, on 11 March, by the criminal Iraqi régime against the cities of the Islamic Republic of Iran, which have taken place in addition to those already reported in the above-mentioned letter.

Time	*Location*	*Type of attack*
1215	Khoramabad	Aerial
1235	Dezful	Aerial
1435	Dezful	Aerial
1445	Salehabad Ilam	Aerial
1615	Qom	Missile
1616	Dezful	Aerial
1620	Tehran	Missile
1620	Bakhtaran	Aerial
1620	Tehran	Missile
1625	Dezful	Aerial

It would be highly appreciated if this letter were circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammad Ja'afar MAHALLATI
Acting Permanent Representative
of the Islamic Republic of Iran
to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19606*

Letter dated 9 March 1988 from the representative of Pakistan to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*11 March 1988*]

I have the honour to inform you that the Government of Pakistan has rejected the protest made by the Kabul authorities on 2 March 1988, in which it was alleged that, on that same day, at 0855 hours, one F-16 aircraft of the Pakistan air force, flying at a height of between 4,000 and 5,200 meters and at a speed of 750 kilometres per hour, entered Afghanistan in the area of Kunar, 10 kilometres east of Asadabad and exited via Shinkorak back into Pakistan. Pakistan's rejection of the Afghan protest was conveyed to the Afghan Chargé d'affaires at Islamabad on 9 March.

I request you to have this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) S. Shah NAWAZ
Permanent Representative of Pakistan
to the United Nations

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/211-S/19606.

DOCUMENT S/19607*

Letter dated 10 March 1988 from the representative of Pakistan to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*11 March 1988*]

Further to my letter of 2 March 1988 [*S/19582*], I have the honour to report to you the following incidents of violation of Pakistan territory from the Afghanistan side, which occurred on 2 and 5 March 1988.

On 2 March, between 0800 hours and 1400 hours, Afghan armed forces fired approximately 50 rounds of artillery which landed in the area approximately four kilometres north-west of Arawali in the Kurram Agency. As a result, four Afghan refugees were killed and five injured.

On 5 March, at 0800 hours, Afghan armed forces fired two rounds of artillery which landed in the Ali Mangal area in the Kurram Agency. As a result, two Pakistan nationals and two Afghan nationals were injured and a civilian pickup destroyed.

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/212-S/19607.

The Afghan Chargé d'affaires was called to the Foreign Office on the morning of 10 March and a strong protest was lodged with him over the unprovoked attacks. He was asked to inform the authorities in Kabul that if such attacks did not cease the entire responsibility for the serious consequences would rest on them.

I request you to have this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) S. Shah NAWAZ
Permanent Representative of Pakistan
to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19608* **

Letter dated 11 March 1988 from the representative of Jordan to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Arabic*]
[*11 March 1988*]

On instructions from my Government, I wish to draw your attention and, through you, that of the international community to an incident that took place on 15 January 1988 when, during the Friday prayers, Israeli occupying forces threw tear-gas and smoke grenades inside the Al-Aqsa Mosque and the Dome of the Rock in Jerusalem even though thousands of the faithful—men, women and children—had not yet finished their devotions.

In the letter I addressed to you on 24 February 1988 [*S/19537*] I detailed the savage and brutal behaviour employed indiscriminately by the occupying troops against the faithful. I should now like to add that a number of the tear-gas and smoke grenades thrown by the Israeli soldiers started at least three fires: two in the Al-Aqsa Mosque and one inside the Dome of the Rock. Had the faithful not been alert and, although choking under the influence of the gas and the smoke, rushed to put the fires out, the consequences would have been disastrous both for the two mosques and for the people inside them.

There can be no justification for such behaviour, especially as the Israeli occupying troops that threw the grenades were acting under the orders of senior officers. What is more, as the photographs annexed to this letter clearly show.[16] the grenades found inside the mosques afterwards were marked "For outdoor use only" and "May start fires".

I also wish to remind you that, since Israel's occupation of Jerusalem in 1967, the mosque has been the target of many attacks by parties seeking to destroy it and remove every trace of the Islamic heritage from the Holy City, the intention being to Judaize it and build the "temple" over the ruins of the sanctuary. Only a few days after the occupation of Jerusalem, the occupying authorities conducted excavations under the foundations of the Al-Aqsa Mosque. In 1969, they tried to burn it down. From time to time they have also encouraged Israeli settlers to enter the precincts of the Mosque under army protection and conduct prayers there. In 1987 a number of Israeli soldiers moved a large quantity of explosives inside, with the intention of destroying it.

The latest incident adds a new dimension to the threats hanging over the Muslim sanctuary in Jerusalem. It is now the Israeli occupation authorities themselves that are imperilling this holy place, which is regarded as one of the most important and sacred in Islam and constitutes part of the spiritual, historical and architectural heritage of mankind.

I should be grateful if you would arrange for the text of this letter and the photographs to be circulated as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Adbullah SALAH
Permanent Representative of Jordan
to the United Nations

* Incorporating document S/19608/Corr.1 of 16 March 1988.
** Circulated under the double symbol A/43/213-S/19608.

DOCUMENT S/19609

Letter dated 10 March 1988 from the representative of Iraq to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Arabic*]
[*11 March 1988*]

On instructions from my Government and in reference to my letter dated 21 December 1987 on the tragic fate of Iraqi prisoners of war in Iran [*S/19367*], I have the honour to inform you that, on 16 December 1987, the news agency of the Islamic Republic of Iran reported that the Iranian authorities had released 450 Iraqi prisoners of war, thus bringing the number of Iraqi prisoners freed since the beginning of the war to 3,500, and that those prisoners had sought political asylum in Iran and would fight against Iraq, their country.

The Iraqi Ministry of Foreign Affairs has already addressed various international bodies, including the United Nations, in details concerning the grim fate that awaits Iraqi prisoners of war in Iran, pointing out that the Iranian régime has from the outset dealt with them in a political light in conformity with its expansionist designs on Iraq. It has not hesitated to order the massacre of prisoners who refused to bow to its will, or to put Iranian elements formerly resident in Iraq among the remainder in order to compel them, through intimidation and every kind of torture and psychological pressure, to turn against their country. The former President of the International Committee of the Red Cross, Mr. Alexander Hay, in a statement on 23 November 1984, was moved to say that Iran was leaving Iraqi prisoners of war only two options—treason or death.

During their visit to Iraq in February, the Iraqi Ministry of Foreign Affairs drew the attention of Mr. André Pas-

quier, the Director of Operations of the International Committee of the Red Cross, and Mr. Michel Amiquet, the general representative of the Committee for the Middle East and North Africa, to the mental and physical pressure and brain-washing employed by the Iranian authorities to force Iraqi prisoners to abandon their beliefs and fight in the ranks of the Iranian army against their country, Iraq, in flagrant violation of the Third Geneva Convention of 1949,[17] which prohibits prisoners of war from being forced to participate in combat against their country.

While we draw your attention to these practices, which patently violate the Geneva Convention relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War, we also strenuously condemn the barbarous treatment which the Iranian régime persists in meting out to Iraqi prisoners of war in order to make them turn against their country, Iraq.

I should be grateful if you would arrange for this letter to be circulated as an official document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ismat KITTANI
Permanent Representative of Iraq
to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19610

Letter dated 12 March 1988 from the representative of Iraq to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Arabic*]
[*12 March 1988*]

Acting upon instructions from my Government and further to the numerous letters we have sent you concerning the Iranian régime's persistent pounding of purely residential areas in Iraq, I have the honour to inform you that Iranian forces carried out the acts of aggression set forth in the attached annex.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ismat KITTANI
Permanent Representative of Iraq
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Iranian bombardment

Time	*Place*	*Number of projectiles*	*Casualties and damage*
9 March			
0216 to 1730	Basra governorate: City of Basra (Al-Jaza'ir, Old Basra, Al-Tuwaysah, Al-Masa'i, Al-Sa'udiya, Al-Ma'qil, Al-Abbasiya, Al-Junaynah, Al-Jumhuriyah, Al-Zahra, Al-Ashshar), Qurnah district; Deir subdistrict	434	10 civilians killed, including 1 child, 13 others wounded; 1 school, the girls' preparatory school at Maagal, and a number of dwellings and businesses damaged
0455 to 1146	Maysan governorate: town of Maysan (Oufia, airport and Thawra sectors), Ali al-Gharbi district	39	3 dwellings and 2 vehicles damaged
1015 to 1230	Sulaymaniyah governorate: Qala Diza district	—	1 civilian killed, 11 wounded, including 5 women and 3 children
1307 to 1313	Sulaymaniyah governorate: Arbad subdistrict	Air raid by 1 plane	7 civilians killed, including 2 children, and 1 wounded; 8 civilian vehicles destroyed or burned
1130	Diyala governorate: Khanaqin district; Qazaniyah subdistrict	—	2 civilians wounded; 4 vehicles and 5 dwellings damaged
1730 to 0225	Basra governorate: Ma'qil, Junaynah and Kazarah sectors, Qurnah district	54	3 civilians killed, including 1 child, and 9 wounded including 2 children; 3 dwellings damaged

Time	*Place*	*Number of projectiles*	*Casualties and damage*
10 March			
0200 to 0530	Qurnah district	115	2 civilians wounded, including 1 woman; 2 dwellings destroyed and 29 others damaged
0802 to 1515	Basra governorate: city of Basra (Al-Dakir, Al-Ma'qil, Batiha, Al-Jaza'ir, Al-Burayhah, Al-Ashshar, the Corniche, Al-Buradi'iyah, Al-Ribat, Tamimia, Manawi Bacha, Al-Hakimiyah, Al-Mishraq, and Old Basra sectors); Deir subdistrict	189, including 20 rockets	9 civilians wounded, including 2 children and 1 woman; 1 residential building, 2 civilian vehicles and a number of businesses damaged
0706 to 1451	City of Sulaymaniyah	54	6 civilians killed, including 1 woman, and 1 child wounded; 2 dwellings damaged
1220 to 1235	Diyala governorate: Klar subdistrict	6 missiles launched from a plane	5 children and 2 women killed; 43 civilians wounded, including 21 children and 12 women; 20 dwellings and 5 civilian vehicles damaged
0300 to 1355	Maysan governorate: Kahla subdistrict	35	—
0800 to 1515	Diyala governorate: city of Khanaqin	50	2 dwellings destroyed, 10 others and 7 businesses damaged; 7 cows killed
0800 to 1330	Wasit governorate: Badrah district	56	—

1. *Diyala governorate*

From 1800 hours on 9 March to 2055 hours on 10 March, 220 projectiles fell in Khanaqin district. The secondary school for girls at Khanaqin and a number of dwellings and businesses were damaged in the shelling.

2. *Basra governorate*

From 0730 on 10 March to 0531 on 11 March, 367 projectiles fell on the city of Basra in the Al-Ashshar, Al-Burayhah, Al-Jaza'ir, Manawi Bacha, Kazarah, Deir, Al-Dakir, Khandaq and Hakimiya sectors and the Harithah subdistrict and Qurnah district. As a result of this bombardment, 2 civilians, including 1 woman, were killed and 6 others were wounded. One hotel, 13 dwellings and 4 civilian vehicles were damaged.

3. *Wasit governorate*

From 1210 to 2030 hours on 10 March, 25 projectiles fell in the Badrah district.

4. *Maysan governorate*

From 0945 hours on 10 March to 0250 hours on 11 March, 59 projectiles fell in the Ali al-Gharbi and Majar Kabir districts.

5. *Sulaymaniyah governorate*

Starting at 1830 hours on 10 March, 116 projectiles were fired on the centre of the city of Sulaymaniyah and its suburbs and on the Qala Diza district. As a result of this bombardment, 2 civilians were wounded and 2 schools and 1 dwelling damaged.

DOCUMENT S/19611

Letter dated 13 March 1988 from the representative of Iraq to the Secretary-General

[Original: Arabic]
[13 March 1988]

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a letter dated 13 March 1988 addressed to you by Mr. Tariq Aziz, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq, regarding the resumption of bombardments of purely residential centres in Iraq by the Iranian régime.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ismat KITTANI
Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations

LETTER DATED 13 MARCH 1988 FROM THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF IRAQ ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to refer to the statement made by the official Iraqi spokesman on Thursday, 10 March 1988 [*S/19598, annex*], in which Iraq undertook, on the basis of clear and equitable principles, to stop the bombarding Iranian cities, beginning on Friday, 11 March at 1600 hours (local time). Iraq has scrupulously honoured that commitment.

The criminal Iranian régime, however, which recognizes no policy other than aggression and destruction, has begun

once again to bombard Iraqi cities and settlements situated near the frontier. Yesterday, on 12 March, it engaged in a new act of aggression against Iraqi territory in the north of the country. During the entire night of 12 to 13 March and all today, the Iranian artillery has bombarded the Iraqi city of Halabja and a nearby housing complex. As of the present time, there have been 13 civilians killed, including five children and two women, and 67 wounded, including 24 children and 13 women. The pounding is still going on.

You will undoubtedly remember that we decided to stop bombarding Iranian cities on the condition that a number of clear and equitable principles set forth in our statement of 10 March 1988 were respected. It should be noted that we had affirmed that we would resume the bombardments if the Iranian régime recommenced its bombardment by any means whatsoever—by artillery, airplanes or missiles—of cities, villages and purely residential centres anywhere in Iraq.

The Iranian authorities, who again on this occasion have reopened the war of the cities, as they have repeatedly in the past (I refer in this connection to my letter dated 5 March 1988 [*see S/19583*]), are under an illusion if they think that they can bring an end to Iraqi bombardments of Iranian cities while at the same time continuing to kill Iraqi civilians in the border cities with impunity. The statement of the official Iraqi spokesman of 10 March contained an unequivocal warning on that point: any act of aggression against Iraqi civilians anywhere would bring a reprisal by Iraq.

Since the Iranian régime has continued to commit crimes against the civilian population of Iraq, the Iraqi armed forces will have to retaliate against Tehran, and if the Iranian régime persists, Iraq will retaliate even more forcefully.

I wish to take this opportunity to emphasize that Iraq will still respect the commitment it made on the basis of the clear and equitable principles set forth in its statement of 10 March, provided that the Iranian régime respects those principles and, in particular, stops bombarding purely civilian residential centres anywhere in Iraq.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Tariq AZIZ
Deputy Prime Minister and
Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq

DOCUMENT S/19612

Letter dated 13 March 1988 from the representative of Iraq to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Arabic*]
[*13 March 1988*]

Upon instructions from my Government and further to the letter I sent you earlier today, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a second letter dated 13 March 1988 addressed to you by Mr. Tariq Aziz, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq, dealing with the continuing bombardment of purely civilian centres in Iraq by the criminal Iranian régime.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ismat KITTANI
Permanent Representative of Iraq
to the United Nations

LETTER DATED 13 MARCH 1988 FROM THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF IRAQ ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

With reference to the letter I sent you this same day, I have the honour to inform you that the bombardments of the Iraqi city of Halabja by the artillery of the criminal Iranian régime have so far resulted in the wounding of 70 civilians.

I also wish to report to you that the criminal Iranian régime has in addition bombarded a housing complex in Darbandakhan. As a result of this new crime, which must be added to the long list of outrages committed by the Tehran régime, eight civilians have been killed and nine others wounded.

I wish to take this opportunity to recall my previous letter regarding the steps Iraq will take in retaliation.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Tariq AZIZ
Deputy Prime Minister and
Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq

DOCUMENT S/19613

Letter dated 14 March 1988 from the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Secretary-General

[Original: English]
[14 March 1988]

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to enclose herewith a list of violations of rules of international law by United States forces in the Persian Gulf.

It would be highly appreciated if this letter were circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mahmoud Sadat MADARSHAHI
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission
of the Islamic Republic of Iran
to the United Nations

ANNEX

United States violations of international law in the Persian Gulf

Warnings by American ships to Iranian sea-patrol aircraft

1. On 8 December 1987, at 1230 hours, an American ship at the position of 26°10′ N and 56°00′ E warned the pilot of an Iranian sea-patrol aircraft at the position of 26°06′ N and 55°42′ E not to fly closer to the ship.

2. On 9 December, at 0935 hours, an American ship at the position of 24°18′ N and 58°35′ E warned an Iranian sea-patrol aircraft not to fly closer to the ship.

3. On 10 December, at 1455 hours, an American ship at the position of 25°53′ N and 56°53′ E warned the pilot of an Iranian sea-patrol aircraft not to fly closer to the ship.

4. On 10 December, at 1510 hours, an American ship at the position of 25°18′ N and 57°10′ E warned the pilot of an Iranian sea-patrol aircraft at the position of 25°30′ N and 57°12′ E not to fly closer to the ship.

5. On 10 December, at 1511 hours, an American ship at the position of 25°10′ N and 57°18′ E warned the pilot of an Iranian sea-patrol aircraft not to fly closer to the ship.

6. On 11 December, at 0908 hours, an American ship at the position of 25°25′ N and 57°22′ E warned the pilot of an Iranian sea-patrol aircraft at the position of 25°37′ N and 57°07′ E not to fly closer to the ship.

Interception of Iranian sea-patrol aircraft by American aircraft

On 9 December 1987, at 0930 hours, two American F-18 aircraft at the position of 24°07′ N and 58°16′ E intercepted an Iranian sea-patrol aircraft for the duration of 5 minutes.

DOCUMENT S/19614

Letter dated 14 March 1988 from the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Secretary-General

[Original: English]
[14 March 1988]

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that as a result of Iraqi missle attacks on residential areas of Tehran on Tuesday, 8 March 1988, 5 civilians were martyred and 10 injured. Similar missile attacks on residential areas of Isfahan claimed the lives of 15 civilians and injured 30.

It would be highly appreciated if this letter were circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mahmoud Sadat MADARSHAHI
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission
of the Islamic Republic of Iran
to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19615*

Letter dated 14 March 1988 from the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Secretary-General

[Original: English]
[14 March 1988]

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that in continuation of its numerous and indeed heinous war crimes, the Iraqi régime chemically bombarded the village of Garmab in the vicinity of Bakhtaran in Iran on Friday, 11 March 1988.

In addition, on Sunday, 13 March, at 2148 hours, Tehran was brought under missile attack. Today, 14 March, at

* Incorporating document S/19615/Corr.1 of 17 March 1988.

0343, 0409, 0610, 0710, 0830 and 1205 hours, Tehran was attacked by Iraqi missiles which hit residential areas. These most recent attacks have caused the martyrdom and injury of hundreds of civilians.

An Iraqi official in New York has stated on behalf of his Government that the Iraqi régime would continue to hit Tehran with missiles until its supply of missiles is exhausted. Such a statement is indeed representative of the inhumane attitudes held by the régime in Baghdad, for whom human lives have no value.

The Iraqi régime is in the meantime continuing its attacks against ships in the Persian Gulf, attacks which it initiated itself.

It would be highly appreciated if this letter were circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mahmoud Sadat MADARSHAHI
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission
of the Islamic Republic of Iran
to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19616*

Letter dated 14 March 1988 from the representative of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Arabic*]
[*14 March 1988*]

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a letter addressed to you from Mr. Jadallah Azzouz Talhi, Secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison, concerning the United States Administration's continuing hostility and arrogance towards the United Nations and towards peoples struggling for freedom and independence, and concerning its decision to enforce the legislation regarding the closure of the office of the Observer Mission of the Palestine Liberation Organization to the United States.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ali A. TREIKI
Permanent Representative
of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
to the United Nations

LETTER FROM THE SECRETARY OF THE PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE OF THE PEOPLE'S BUREAU FOR FOREIGN LIAISON OF THE LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On many occasions we have warned about the gravity of the United States Administration's arbitrary and irresponsible actions against missions and officials of States Members of the United Nations. Such actions constitute flagrant violations of all the rules and conventions of international law. Today, we note with dismay that the United States Administration is persisting in its hostile and arrogant policy towards the United Nations and towards peoples struggling for freedom and independence, and has decided to enforce the legislation regarding the closure of the New York office of the Observer Mission of the Palestine Liberation Organization to the United Nations as from 21 March 1988.

The only explanation for this arbitrary action is that the United States Administration has yielded to Zionist pressure and blackmail. Such action represents a continuation of the open hostility and racist measures against the Arab nation and the children of the Palestinian Arab people. The impressive popular uprising against the racist Zionist occupation in which they are now engaged is an attempt to secure their legitimate rights. The occupation forces, for their part, are using all illegitimate means to crush that uprising, with the assistance of the United States Administration. The decision by that Administration constitutes a flagrant violation of the 1947 Agreement[18] and of General Assembly resolutions 3237 (XXIX), 42/210 B and 42/229 A and B. The United States Administration is thus flouting the wishes of the international community and failing to honour its obligations towards the United Nations. This is a dangerous precedent for future treatment of all missions to the United Nations.

This situation only serves to confirm our often-stated conviction: the United States is no longer the right place for the Headquarters of the United Nations. The international community must therefore assume its responsibilities and work towards moving the Headquarters to a peace-loving country capable of abiding by its international commitments.

I am grateful to you for your efforts to find a solution to this problem, and I appeal to you to take such action as you may consider appropriate in order to ensure the representation of the Palestine Liberation Organization at the United Nations.

Jadallah Azzouz TALHI
Secretary of the People's Committee
of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison
of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/215-S/19616.

DOCUMENT S/19617

Special report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon

[Original: English]
[14 March 1988]

1. The purpose of this report is to inform the Security Council of developments relating to the recent kidnapping of Lieutenant Colonel William Richard Higgins, an officer of the United States of America serving with the United Nations in southern Lebanon.

2. Since January 1988, Lt. Col. Higgins has been the Chief of Observer Group Lebanon (OGL), a group of unarmed military observers of the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO) who are assigned to assist UNIFIL in the performance of its tasks. The observers man observation posts and maintain mobile teams, which support the infantry battalions by investigating incidents, helping newly rotated units to familiarize themselves with their sectors, maintaining local contacts and arranging meetings as necessary. OGL is under the operational control of the Commander of UNIFIL.

3. On 17 February 1988, Lt. Col. Higgins met in Tyre with a local leader of the Amal movement. On his way back to UNIFIL headquarters at Naqoura he drove in convoy with two other observers, who preceded him in their vehicle. Shortly after 1400 hours and while still in the Tyre Pocket and therefore outside UNIFIL's area, the two observers briefly lost sight of Lt. Col. Higgins and tried to call him on the radio. When he did not answer, the two turned back, only to find his empty vehicle on the road about 1 kilometre north of the first UNIFIL checkpoint. Lebanese eyewitnesses told them that Lt. Col. Higgins had been abducted by armed men who had taken him towards the north in a civilian car. The actual abduction was not witnessed by any UNIFIL personnel, though a group of Fijian soldiers arrived on the scene immediately afterwards.

4. UNIFIL headquarters was alerted by radio, and the two observers returned towards Tyre to alert the detachment of the Lebanese army stationed there, as well as Amal, which maintains checkpoints in the Tyre area, including one at Qasimiyah Bridge on the Litani River. At the same time, UNIFIL headquarters ordered the infantry units, first of all the Fijian and Ghanaian battalions, whose sectors are next to the Tyre Pocket, to make sure that Lt. Col. Higgins could not be taken through their checkpoints. Numerous additional checkpoints were established, and UNIFIL increased its patrols to control movement. In particular, the Ghanaian battalion was ordered to send patrols to the Litani River to prevent any crossing on foot or by boat. During the afternoon and throughout the night, Amal also established numerous checkpoints in and near the Tyre area and conducted a large-scale search that was supported by UNIFIL helicopters as long as daylight lasted. A mechanized section of the Ghanaian battalion was dispatched to Qasimiyah Bridge to reinforce the Amal checkpoint there during the night.

5. The immediate measures outlined above were aimed at closing off possible escape routes and, above all, preventing the kidnappers from taking Lt. Col. Higgins across the Litani River. At the same time every effort was made to find witnesses or other persons with information which could help locate Lt. Col. Higgins. This work was mostly carried out by elements of the Amal movement, with the participation of elements of the Lebanese army and the Lebanese gendarmerie who remain in the area. UNIFIL also provided such help as was consistent with its mandate and its capabilities.

6. I issued an immediate statement expressing my profound concern at the abduction of Lt. Col. Higgins. I also instructed Mr. Marrack Goulding, Under-Secretary-General for Special Political Affairs, who was visiting the area, to return without delay to Beirut for contacts with the Lebanese authorities. The next day, 18 February, Mr. Goulding saw President Gemayel and Acting Prime Minister Hoss who both expressed their deep regret at the kidnapping and pledged their full support for efforts to find and free Lt. Col. Higgins. They indicated, however, the limits to the practical measures the authorities could take, given the conditions prevailing in the country. Mr. Goulding also met Mr. Nabih Berri, Minister of State for Southern Affairs, who heads the Amal movement. Mr. Berri promised that Amal would continue to do what it could to find Lt. Col. Higgins.

7. The searches carried out by UNIFIL over the next several days were based on information gathered by Amal or, in some cases, made available to UNIFIL. That information focused on the Fijian and Ghanaian battalion sectors. UNIFIL maintained the measures described in paragraph 4 above and carried out terrain searches with the help of tracker dogs, including the search of a large system of caves west of Aytit. Amal searched numerous houses in several villages. However, Lt. Col. Higgins could not be found. UNIFIL has since received a number of reports which suggest that Lt. Col. Higgins may now be held north of the Litani River.

8. On 19 February, the kidnappers sent to a news agency in Beirut copies of Lt. Col. Higgins' identity card and on 23 February a video tape, which shows him reading their conditions for his release.

9. I strongly condemn the abduction and continuing detention of Lt. Col. Higgins. This incident occurred while he was carrying out functions assigned to him in order to assist UNIFIL to carry out the mandate given to it by the Security Council. That mandate has the full support of the Lebanese authorities and of the local population in southern Lebanon. I am greatly concerned about the possible implications such unwarranted attacks on members of the Force could have for its effectiveness. UNIFIL, if it is to continue its efforts to restore peace in southern Lebanon, must enjoy the full confidence and support of the local population and must receive co-operation from all the governments and armed groups active there.

10. UNIFIL will maintain all possible efforts to locate Lt. Col. Higgins and secure his release. I and my senior staff will remain in contact with all parties whom I feel could be of help. Meanwhile, I extend my warmest sympathy to Lt. Col. Higgins' family during this very trying time.

DOCUMENT S/19618

Letter dated 14 March 1988 from the representative of Iraq to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Arabic*]
[*15 March 1988*]

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter from Mr. Tariq Aziz, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq, dated 14 March 1988.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ismat KITTANI
Permanent Representative of Iraq
to the United Nations

LETTER DATED 14 MARCH 1988 FROM THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF IRAQ ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Further to my two letters dated 13 March 1988 [*S/19611 and S/19612*], I have the honour to inform you that the criminal Iranian régime has launched a ground-to-ground missile against a residential neighbourhood in Baghdad, which resulted in the death and wounding of a number of civilian citizens and damage to civilian propeprty. Last night and today the Iranian régime also extended the range of its artillery and missile bombardment to include the city of Basra and the towns of Qurnah, Qal'at Salih, Majar, Halabja, Darbandakhan, Sirwan and Sayyid Sadiq. This bombardment was intensive and resulted in the death of 21 civilian citizens, including 4 children and 1 woman, the wounding of 62 others, including 18 children and 3 women, and damage to 65 houses, 1 apartment building, 1 hospital, 7 stores, 2 schools and 1 public library.

These new crimes committed by the Iranian régime mean that it has resumed escalation of the war of the cities in a deliberate and planned manner and that it has absolutely disregarded our warnings to desist from these crimes.

On the basis of the foregoing, Iraq has full right to retaliate against Tehran and other Iranian cities, whenever the Iranian régime continues to bombard purely residential centres in Iraqi towns and villages.

On this occasion, we should like to emphasize to you once again that Iraq is ready to abide by the undertaking which it announced, in accordance with the clear and just terms set forth in the statement issued on 10 March 1988 [*S/19598, annex*], whenever the Iranian régime undertakes to desist from its crimes against purely residential centres in all parts of Iraq and to comply with the other terms.

(*Signed*) Tariq AZIZ
Deputy Prime Minister and
Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq

DOCUMENT S/19619

Letter dated 14 March 1988 from the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*15 March 1988*]

I have the honour to enclose herewith the text of the letter of Mr. Ali Akbar Velayati, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran, dated 14 March 1988.

It would be highly appreciated if this letter and its annex were circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammad Ja'afar MAHALLATI
Acting Permanent Representative
of the Islamic Republic of Iran
to the United Nations

LETTER DATED 14 MARCH 1988 FROM THE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

The international community has witnessed yet another episode of the total disregard of the war-mongering and aggressor régime of Iraq for norms of international law governing the conduct of hostilities. Escalating and widening the scope of its war of aggression against the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Iraqi régime resumed its attacks against neutral shipping in the Persian Gulf last week and once again resorted to the use of chemical weapons against civilians on 11 March in the vicinity of Bakhtaran. Furthermore, last night—13 March—the Iraqi régime resumed its missile attacks against non-military and residential quarters in Tehran, massacring scores of innocent civilians in cold blood. The details of these attacks have been brought to your attention by the Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran in New York.

As you are well aware, the Islamic Republic of Iran, committed to the observance of international humanitarian principles, has never initiated, resumed or continued the war of the cities. Even after intense and continued Iraqi attacks against civilian areas, the Islamic Republic of Iran has reluctantly resorted to limited preventive and retaliatory measures in exercise of its inherent right of self-defence not by targeting purely civilian areas but by attacking military, industrial and economic centres in Iraq. In line with the universally recognized rules of warfare, the Islamic Republic of Iran has been guided by its commitment that the response to repeated acts of aggression and lawlessness of the Iraqi régime must be delivered in the battlefields by Muslim combatants.

The Islamic Republic of Iran once again reminds the United Nations of its grave responsibility in countering and suppressing acts of aggression, an obligation which is imperative for the maintenance of international peace and security. We reiterate that the silence and indifference of the United Nations in the face of the savage crimes of the Iraqi régime remains unjustifiable not only for the Iranian people but also for the international public opinion.

The passive and aloof reaction of the United Nations has caused the continuation and escalation of Iraqi war crimes and has encouraged Iraq to continue with impunity its criminal policy of use of chemical weapons, attacks against merchant shipping and savage massacre of the civilians in cities and other non-military quarters. This trend of Iraqi war crimes and United Nations inaction indeed threatens regional and international peace and security.

It is evident that, under those circumstances, the aggressor régime of Iraq and its super-Power supporters will have to bear full responsibility for all consequences of the breach of peace and stability in the region and in the world. Moreover, those international bodies who have maintained an unjustifiable silence and indifference in the face of war crimes of such magnitude will have to share responsibility for the grave consequences of Iraqi acts of lawlessness.

It is necessary to remind pertinent international authorities that until and unless they adopt effective and immediate measures to halt and prevent the inhuman Iraqi policies, the Islamic Republic of Iran will have no alternative but to resort forcefully to appropriate and effective retaliatory measures in self-defence.

(*Signed*) Ali Akbar VELAYATI
Minister for Foreign Affairs of
the Islamic Republic of Iran

DOCUMENT S/19620*

Letter dated 14 March 1988 from the representative of Lebanon to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Arabic*]
[*15 March 1988*]

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you of a new act of aggression perpetrated by Israel against Lebanese territory. On Saturday, 12 March 1988, at 1440 hours Lebanese time, six aircraft of the Israeli air force attacked the suburb of Sidon for 15 minutes using heavy rockets (750 kilograms). The aircraft bombed 10 inhabited houses situated near the city and the camps of Ein el-Hilweh and Mieh Mieh. The houses were entirely destroyed. Two bodies were extracted from the rubble, and more than a dozen persons required hospitalization.

The Government of Lebanon strongly condemns such criminal aggression which victimizes innocent civilians, and it draws the attention of the intentional community to Israel's insistence on pursuing its policy of bloody terrorism in defiance of the principles of international law, the Charter of the United Nations and the sovereignty and territorial integrity of neighbouring countries. That policy contributes to the further deterioration of the critical situation in Lebanon in particular and in the Middle East in general.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Rachid FAKHOURY
Permanent Representative of Lebanon
to the United Nations

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/216-S/19620.

DOCUMENT S/19621

Letter dated 15 March 1988 from the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*15 March 1988*]

Upon instructions from my Government and pursuant to the letter dated 14 March 1988 [*S/19615*], I have the honour to inform you that the chemical attack by the Iraqi forces on the village of Garmab in the vicinity of Bakhtaran on 11 March at 1630 hours has so far been reported to have resulted in the martyrdom of two civilians and the injury of five.

It would be highly appreciated if this letter were circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammad Ja'afar MAHALLATI
Acting Permanent Representative of
the Islamic Republic of Iran
to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19622

Letter dated 15 March 1988 from the representative of Iraq to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Arabic*]
[*15 March 1988*]

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of the statement issued by the Iranian Government, which demonstrates clearly the hostility of the Iranian régime and its determination to continue the war against Iraq.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and the annex thereto circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ismat KITTANI
Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations

ANNEX

Statement issued by the Iranian Government on 14 March 1988

The humanitarian position of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, which is to avoid the war of the cities, has caused the clique in power in Iraq to draw the wrong conclusions. Those who have taken the initiative in attacking residential areas in our country and who, by providing political support and weapons, have helped open this gaping wound in the conscience of mankind are deluding themselves that by killing women and children they can bring to its knees a proud people which has faith in God or cause it to desist from the struggle it is waging to protect its rights and defend its freedom and dignity. Are they not reopening the war of the cities precisely because the Iranian people continues to defend its honour and existence? Because it is insisting on its rights and will not abandon the battle until the aggressor has been punished?

They mistakenly believe that the noise of missiles exploding in the rooms where the children of our God-fearing people lie sleeping can wipe out the victories which our fighters have had on the fronts of Halabja, Khourmal and Darbandikhan. They are going so far as to kill our infants because they mistakenly believe that by attacking the cities they will weaken our determination to teach the aggressor a lesson, just as they mistakenly believe that their missiles will succeed in extinguishing the flame which causes us to resist to the last house, the last fighter, the last drop of blood. They forget that the burns inflicted on infants and pregnant women are burns which go to the very heart of the Iranian people, reminding it not to abandon its sacred struggle and its legitimate fight until the aggressor has been exterminated.

Perhaps they also believe that we are not in a position to transform Baghdad into a hell the likes of which has never been seen before. The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, supported by the might of its heroic people, declares once again that it is resolutely determined to continue its just fight, even if that means continuing to fight on the battlefield, for another 20 years. We will remain steadfast and we do not fear the continuation of a war on which the fate of this people will hang for decades and centuries to come. The heroic people of Iran will not leave the Saddam régime, which is on the point of collapsing, in peace; it is instead the supporters of international hegemonism who must stop believing that they can force us to capitulate. The pressure exerted upon our unjustly attacked people and on our sacred régime by the organs of hegemonism and the councils which are under America's thumb will not succeed for a moment in shaking our determination to finish with Saddam once and for all.

We declare once more, without any ambiguity, that the only way to peace is to administer justice, that is to say, to name the aggressor and to take the decisions which must be taken, in particular, to impose appropriate sanctions on the aggressor. Naturally, we do not expect the organizations of the East or of the West to show any compassion or pity in punishing those who razed "Khorramshahr" or who destroyed the provinces of "Khuzestan", Ilam, Bakhtaran and Kurdistan. When people speak to us about the Security Council resolution we remember the torn limbs of the children of Mayana and Maragha. We are capable of wresting our rights ourselves, and we do not expect assistance from any of those quarters whose loud noises do not move us in the slightest.

Those who threaten us with an arms embargo or an economic boycott only display their ignorance of the strength and greatness of our people and discredit themselves still further in the eyes of those proud and pure people. Our people have sworn to confront America and its accomplices, and they will neither tire of nor be harmed by the fight. On the contrary, America and its accomplices are being forced to retreat step by step, and with every passing day they are becoming more isolated from the peoples of the region. We have warned the reactionaries of the region that they have chosen the wrong path. The henchmen of America and the protectors of Saddam in the region should not imagine that they can support the Baath régime without paying a price. In particular, we warn Saddam's masters not to broaden the theatre of operations in the "Persian" Gulf and in the rest of the region, and we give them notice that any measures taken in that regard will cause the fire to spread to the entire region. America should know that its puppets in the region are likely to suffer if they attack a people devoted to God. The war of the cities has therefore resumed once again, as part of American plots against the sacred Islamic revolution. That resumption of the war of the cities confirms that because we are able to spare the residential areas in both countries from air and missiles attacks the Iraqi régime has incorrectly assessed our capabilities. We are therefore compelled to make the enemy aggressor feel the wrath of our people. Our people are preparing for long-term resistance. All governors and all organizations should put all the means at their disposal at the service of the resistance of our people's children, whatever the difficulties, since that resistance is the capital on which the defence of our rights—and the possibility of making the enemy regret his crimes—rest. Such resistance has always been the rock on which our enemies have foundered, since "more is achieved through patience and the passage of time than through force and anger".

(*Signed*) Mir Hussein MOUSSAVI
Prime Minister

DOCUMENT S/19623*

Letter dated 14 March 1988 from the representative of Algeria to the Secretary-General

[*Original: French*]
[*15 March 1988*]

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of the statement made on 12 March 1988 by the spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria following official notification of the decision of the United States of America to close the Permanent Observer Mission of the Palestine Liberation Organization to the United Nations.

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/217-S/19623.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and the annex thereto circulated as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Hocine DJOUDI
Permanent Representative of Algeria
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Statement made on 12 March 1988 by the spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Algeria

The decision of the United States of America to close the Permanent Observer Mission of the Palestine Liberation Organization to the United Nations constitutes a particularly negative and dangerous development in every respect.

This arbitrary decision, which deliberately overlooks the international obligations of the United States, runs directly counter to the universality of the United Nations, both as regards its composition and its operation. It demonstrates a propensity to impose individual positions of the host country on the collective will of the international community; the latter bases the observer status granted to the Palestine Liberation Organization on the fact that PLO is the sole, legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

What is more important, this decision tends to deprive the United Nations efforts to establish a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East of the irreplaceable contribution of the Palestine Liberation Organization and to conceal the international personality of the Palestinian people.

Coming as it does in the context of the general protest which has been going on for the past three months in demonstration of the irrepressible will of the Palestinian people to exercise its inalienable national rights, this decision—whose illegality has been established by the General Assembly of the United Nations, the Member States having spoken almost unanimously—is likely to exacerbate the Middle East crisis and lastingly to thwart settlement of that crisis.

Algeria rejects this inadmissible decision and invites the Member States and competent organs of the United Nations to do all within their power to prevent it from being implemented and to avert the considerable injury that would ensue for the world Organization and for the prospects for peace in the Middle East.

DOCUMENT S/19624

Letter dated 15 March 1988 from the representative of Zambia to the President of the Security Council

[*Original: English*]
[*15 March 1988*]

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to request that an urgent meeting of the Security Council be convened to consider, under the item entitled "The question of South Africa", the question of the death sentences passed by the régime of South Africa on Mojalefa Reginald Sefatsa, Reid Molebo Mokoena, Oupa Moses Diniso, Theresa Ramashamola, Duma Joshua Khumalo, Francis Don Mokhesi, known as the Sharpeville Six, as well as its recent decision to execute them on Friday, 18 March 1988.

(*Signed*) Peter D. ZUZE
Permanent Representative of Zambia
to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19625*

Letter dated 15 March 1988 from the representative of China to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Chinese*]
[*16 March 1988*]

I have the honour to enclose herewith the text of the note of the Foreign Ministry of the People's Republic of China to the Embassy of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam in China dated 14 March 1988.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and the annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) DING Yuanhong
Acting Permanent Representative
of the People's Republic of China
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Note dated 14 March 1988 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China to the embassy of Viet Nam in China

On 14 March 1988, the Vietnamese armed vessels that had illegally intruded into the sea waters of China's Nansha Islands flagrantly launched armed attacks on Chinese vessels which were carrying out such normal activities as survey, study and patrol in the sea waters around Chigua Reef of the Nansha Islands. The Chinese vessels were forced to counter-attack in self-defence.

In disregard of the repeated solemn statements of the Chinese Government, the Vietnamese authorities continued to dispatch troops to invade and occupy islands and atolls of China's Nansha Islands, and now the Vietnamese armed vessels have started military provocations against Chinese vessels in a vicious attempt to create tensions in this sea area. The Chinese Government hereby expresses its great indignation and strong protest. The Vietnamese authorities must immediately stop their armed provocations against China in the sea waters of the Nansha Islands and withdraw from China's islands, atolls and the adjacent waters under their occupation. Otherwise, they must take full responsibility for all the consequences arising therefrom.

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/218-S/19625.

DOCUMENT S/19628

Letter dated 15 March 1988 from the representative of Spain to the Secretary-General

[Original: Spanish]
[16 March 1988]

I have the honour to transmit to you a communiqué issued on 15 March 1988 by the Diplomatic Information Office of the Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs regarding the conflict between Iran and Iraq.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a Security Council document.

(*Signed*) Francisco VILLAR
Permanent Representative of Spain
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Communiqué issued on 15 March 1988 by the Diplomatic Information Office of the Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs

The Spanish Government wishes to reiterate its deep concern at the continuing hostilities between Iran and Iraq, which took a turn for the worse on 27 February with the indiscriminate bombings carried out by both countries, the result being a substantial number of deaths and injuries among civilians.

In the light of the failure by both belligerents to respect the *de facto* truce established on 11 March, and the resulting resumption of attacks, the Spanish Government urges the Iranian and Iraqi authorities to cease the indiscriminate bombing of cities, which by its very nature and because of its results only engenders further violence and hatred.

Lastly, the Spanish Government reiterates its conviction that both countries must urgently comply with all the provisions of United Nations Security Council resolution 598 (1987) and co-operate actively with the Secretary-General in promptly applying those provisions.

DOCUMENT S/19629

Letter dated 16 March 1988 from the representative of Iraq to the Secretary-General

[Original: Arabic]
[16 March 1988]

On instructions from my Government and further to our previous letters concerning the Iranian régime's bombardment of purely civilian targets in Iraq, I have the honour to inform you that the forces of that régime on 14 and 15 March 1988 carried out the acts of aggression set forth in the attached annex.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ismat KITTANI
Permanent Representative of Iraq
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Iranian bombardment

Time	*Place*	*Projectiles*	*Casualties and damage*
0710 to 1655	Centre of Basra governorate: Al-Dakir, Umm al-Barum, Al-Mutayhah, Al-Jazair, Al-Abbasiyah, Al-Hakimiyah, Al-Sa'i, Al-Jubaylah, Al-Muftiyah, Al-Tamimiyah, Qurnah district and Zubayr district	325	5 citizens killed, including 1 child, and 12 wounded, including 2 children and 1 woman; damage to 44 houses, 23 businesses, 4 vehicles, a mosque and a clinic; 4 houses destroyed
1315 to 1410	Maysan governorate: Ali al-Gharbi district	19	—
1320 to 1515	Wasit governorate: Badrah district	29	—
1000	Sulaymaniyah governorate: Qala Diza district	Air raid by 2 aircraft: 4 missiles fired	1 child killed and 9 citizens wounded, including 2 children and 1 woman
1530 to 2227	Centre of Sulaymaniyah town and Qala Diza district	54	1 citizen killed and 2 wounded; 6 houses destroyed; damage to 2 civilian vehicles

Time	*Place*	*Projectiles*	*Casualties and damage*
1410 to 2230	Diyala governorate: Khanaqin district	51	—
1745 to 2055	Centre of Basra city: Al-Jazair, Al-Dakir, Al-Sa'udiyah, Al-Burayhah, Al-Jubaylah, Old Basra, Al-Hakimiyah, Al-Ashshar, Al-Mishraq and Al-Sa'di	—	1 citizen killed and 5 wounded, including 2 children and 2 women; 2 houses destroyed; damage to an intermediate school, 2 mosques and 7 businesses; 1 house set on fire; damage to 2 civilian vehicles
2200 to 2300	Sulaymaniyah governorate: Qala Diza district	—	—
0320 to 0445	Maysan governorate: Qal'at Salih district	30	—

DOCUMENT S/19630

Letter dated 16 March 1988 from the representative of Iraq to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Arabic*]
[*16 March 1988*]

On instructions from my Government and further to the letter dated 14 March 1988 addressed to you by Mr. Tariq Aziz, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq [*see S/19618*], I have the honour to inform you that on the morning of 16 March the aggressive, expansionist Iranian régime launched two ground-to-ground missiles against the city of Baghdad at 0115 and 0155 hours (local time).

The two missiles fell on residential neighbourhoods in the city of Baghdad, causing the death and wounding of a number of citizens, including a number of women and children, and damage to a number of houses and to civilian property.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as an official document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ismat KITTANI
Permanent Representative of Iraq
to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19631

Letter dated 16 March 1988 from the representative of Iraq to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Arabic*]
[*16 March 1988*]

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you a letter dated 16 March 1988 from Mr. Tariq Aziz, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ismat KITTANI
Permanent Representative of Iraq
to the United Nations

LETTER DATED 16 MARCH 1988 FROM THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF IRAQ ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour, further to my letter to you of 5 March 1988 [*see S/19583*], to state that our past conjectures appear to have been confirmed, namely, that Iran has been preceding every act of aggression against the national territory of Iraq with a blizzard of criminal and misleading actions and practices which are designed to blur the picture and to give a false impression to the international community. On this occasion, it has again done exactly that, igniting the war against civilians in spite of Iraq's self-restraint and long-suffering patience.

Although Iraq unilaterally declared that it would cease its bombardment on 11 March 1988, Iran resumed its bombardment of a number of Iraqi cities, including the border town of Halabja and its surrounds. The bombardment caused heavy casualties among civilians, including women, old people and children.

I wish to inform you that, following the subjection of the town of Halabja and its surrounds to concentrated artillery bombardment over the course of the past few days, Iran's forces have now proceeded to enter the town and its surrounds causing widespread destruction.

In the circumstances, Iraq has no alternative but to exercise its legitimate right to defend its sovereignty and territorial integrity with all the measures and means enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and international law, with a view to deterring the Iranian aggression. It is the Iranian régime which must bear full responsibility for this dangerous escalation and for all the casualties and material losses which are to be inflicted on our country, as well as those which will be inflicted on Iran as a consequence of such action.

We have stated many times in the past—particularly since the adoption of Security Council resolution 598 (1987), which has binding force—that the Council must draw the correct conclusions from the Iranian régime's rejection of that resolution and impose mandatory sanctions on the régime which persists in war, destruction and expansion. It is the Security Council's hesitation in this regard, as well as the flawed positions of some of its members, that has provided Iran with the opportunity to evade the resolution and to continue its war of aggression, which today has resulted in the occupation of another Iraqi town.

In the light of this development, it is essential that the Security Council should assume its full responsibilities by curbing Iran's evil expansionist ambitions and concentrating on the essence of the problem, which is Iran's insistence on continuing the war and its aggression.

I request you to circulate this letter as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Tariq AZIZ
Deputy Prime Minister and
Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq

DOCUMENT S/19632

Letter dated 16 March 1988 from the representative of South Africa to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*16 March 1988*]

I have the honour to request that the enclosed statement, issued by me today in reaction to the Security Council's adoption of resolution 610 (1988), be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) A. L. MANLEY
Permanent Representative of South Africa
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Statement by the Permanent Representative of South Africa to the United Nations

The South African Government strongly objects to the Security Council discussions which interfere, in disregard of the provisions of the Charter, not only in an internal South African matter but also a matter which is the result of the due process of law.

How many members of the Security Council have read the Court's reasoning and judgement as well as the judgement of the Appeal Court. Murder is a common-law crime. It has nothing to do with the colour of a person's skin, with a person's political persuasion or his religious beliefs. What are the facts?

A popular and respected member of his community, Mr. Kuzwayo Jacob Dlamini, then Deputy Mayor of Lekoa, was murdered by a raging mob on the morning of Monday, 3 September 1984. The trial judge described the circumstances of his death as "gruesome, medieval and barbaric".

According to the evidence at the trial, Mr. Dlamini's death resulted from a sequence of events which commenced when a group of people approached his house and began stoning it. The police arrived and dispersed the crowd which, however, regrouped once the police had departed. The crowd again stoned the house. Petrol bombs were thrown into the dwelling which forced Mr. Dlamini to flee. Once outside, he was stripped of the firearm with which he had attempted to defend himself, then stoned, doused with petrol and set alight. He was still alive at the time. Those are the facts in outline.

Eight persons were initially accused of Mr. Dlamini's murder. Six were found guilty and sentenced to death. Two were convicted of lesser crimes. Many witnesses were called during the lengthy trial, some to testify for the State, others for the accused. The Trial Court—the Transvaal Provincial Division of the Supreme Court—established the identity of the six convicted of murder beyond doubt. Although the Court found unanimously that there were no extenuating circumstances, it granted all six leave to appeal. The Appeal Court in an unanimous decision also failed to find extenuating circumstances and on 10 December 1987 dismissed the appeals of the six against their convictions and sentences. Even now a new approach has been made to the Trial Court. The full process of law is therefore being followed.

It is generally known that the South African courts are highly respected. In fact, there are few countries if any where the courts enjoy a higher degree of independence from the executive authority than is the case in South Africa. In addition, the degree of integrity of South African judges match the highest standards applicable anywhere. The South African Government is not insensitive to the feelings aroused by capital punishment but must respect the independence of the country's judicial system.

DOCUMENT S/19633*

Letter dated 15 March 1988 from the representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Russian*]
[*16 March 1988*]

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of a statement issued by the Soviet Government on 15 March 1988 concerning the talks between Afghanistan and Pakistan.

I should be grateful if you would have this text circulated as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) A. BELONOGOV
Permanent Representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the United Nations

ANNEX

Statement issued by the Soviet Government on 15 March 1988

Another round of talks between Afghanistan and Pakistan on the political settlement of the situation related to Afghanistan, conducted through Mr. Diego Cordovez, Personal Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General, began in Geneva on 2 March 1988. The entire situation that had developed before this round began gave grounds to believe that this would become the final round. The statements by the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, Mikhail Gorbachev, and the President of the Republic of Afghanistan, Najibullah, clearly set out the constructive policy of the Soviet Union and Afghanistan, which is aimed at ensuring the earliest conclusion of agreements in Geneva and their practical implementation. These statements gave a specific date for starting the withdrawal of Soviet troops—15 May 1988—provided that the Geneva agreements were concluded not later than 15 March.

On the very first days of the talks resumed in Geneva, the sides agreed, thanks to the Afghan delegation's stance, that the withdrawal of Soviet troops would take nine months and that half of them would be withdrawn within the first three months. There seemed to be no more obstacles to the signing of the documents, especially as their drafting had been nearly completed before the resumption of the talks.

The situation at the Geneva talks began to develop in another direction, however. In the past 10 days, the talks have been virtually marking time, being stalled by various artificial obstacles and all kinds of pretexts and demands. The Pakistan delegation, despite the fact that the talks were recessed for several days at its request, states that it has no instructions to sign the Geneva documents. It is doing its utmost to complicate absolutely clear issues and go back on the decisions adopted earlier.

The Pakistan side has not yet given up the attempts to link the signing of the Geneva agreements, i.e. the settlement of external aspects of the Afghan problem, with the creation of a new Afghan Government, which it calls "interim". In other words, there are continuing attempts to use the Geneva process for interference in the internal affairs of the Afghans. What is being ignored is the obvious fact that questions relating to their internal organization should be handled by the Afghans themselves and that no one has the right to impose any solutions on them.

Both the Pakistan and the American sides have put forward a number of other conditions that bear no relation whatsoever to the Geneva accords and represent an attempt to dictate to the USSR and Afghanistan how they should build their bilateral relations with each other.

Having embarked on the road of procrastination and delay in the talks, the Pakistan and American sides declare at the same time that they would like the Soviet Union to start the withdrawal of its troops precisely on 15 May 1988. This position looks strange, to say the least. The Soviet Union and Afghanistan gave that date on the assumption that the settlement agreements would be signed not later than 15 March. In that case, the interval between the conclusion of the agreements and their entry into force would have been two months, as envisaged in the Geneva documents. There was enough time for signing the agreements before 15 March. This did not happen, however. Presumably, Pakistan can sign the agreements before the end of March, but so far it is avoiding concrete commitments. Those who think that they can move further away from the conclusion of the agreements, while the date given by us for the start of troop withdrawals remains unchanged, are profoundly mistaken. It is perfectly clear that if the date of the signing of the agreements is put off, the beginning of the withdrawal of Soviet troops will be postponed too.

The Soviet Government would like to emphasize that Pakistan and the United States, whose signatures should also be on some settlement documents, are assuming responsibility, by avoiding the conclusion of the accords, for the fate of the talks, the successful outcome of which is expected by the Afghan people and other peoples of the world. The solution of the Afghan problem is thus being blocked. It is hoped in the Soviet Union that the final step needed to activate the Geneva accords will at last be made.

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/220-S/19633.

DOCUMENT S/19634*

Letter dated 16 March 1988 from the representative of Viet Nam to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*16 March 1988*]

On instructions from my Government and further to my earlier letter dated 22 February 1988 concerning China's violation of Vietnamese waters [*S/19523*], I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the texts of a statement issued on 14 March (annex I) and of a note issued on 15 March (annex II) by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annexes circulated as official documents of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) NGUYEN BINH THANH
Acting Permanent Representative of Viet Nam to the United Nations

ANNEX I

Statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Viet Nam, issued on 14 March 1988

On the morning of 14 March 1988, Chinese warships illegally operating in the waters of the Truong Sa archipelago overtly opened fire at two

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/221-S/19634.

Vietnamese freighters which were then on routine activity near the Gac Ma coral reefs of the Sinh Ton (Sincowe) island. The Vietnamese ships were forced to fire back in self-defence. But the Chinese authorities made black white by alleging that the Vietnamese ships had committed armed provocations against the Chinese warships.

It is common knowledge that since January 1988 China has repeatedly intruded its warships for armed provocations at the coral reefs of Chau Vien (Cuarteron reef), Chu Thap (Fiery Cross) and a number of other reefs in the Sinh Ton island in the Truong Sa archipelago of Viet Nam. In defiance of the protests by the Government of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam and public concern in the world, first of all in the South-East Asian countries, the above-mentioned blatant act has clearly exposed the Chinese ruling circles' dark design of violating Viet Nam's territorial sovereignty, seriously threatened the security of Viet Nam and undermined peace, stability and the trend of dialogue in South-East Asia, in execution of their plot to expand in the East Sea.

The Government and the people of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam are extremely indignant at and vehemently condemn these acts of provocation committed by the Chinese rulers. The Government of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam once again reaffirms its sovereignty over the Truong Sa and Hoang Sa archipelagos. The Chinese authorities must put an immediate end to all their acts of armed provocation and withdraw their warships from Viet Nam's territorial waters in the Truong Sa archipelago. They have to bear full responsibility for the consequences of their acts of armed provocation.

ANNEX II

Note from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Viet Nam to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China on 15 March 1988

Following the acts in violation of the sovereignty and territory of Viet Nam since January 1988 at the two coral reefs Chu Thap (Fiery Cross) and Chau Vien (Cuarteron Reef) and most recently at a number of other places in the Truong Sa archipelago of Viet Nam on 14 March 1988, the Chinese authorities sent many warships to provoke and open fire at Viet Nam's freighters at the Gac Ma coral reef near Sinh Ton island.

Chinese warships, while operating illegally, have also prevented the normal movement of Vietnamese freighters in Vietnamese territorial waters and in international waters. The allegations in the note of 14 March of the Foreign Ministry of the People's Republic of China to the Vietnamese Embassy in China [*S/19625, annex*] were complete reversal of truth. In its statement on 14 March [*annex I above*] the Foreign Ministry of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam already denounced and severely condemned the misdeeds of the Chinese side.

In defiance of the protest of the Vietnamese people and Government, the profound concern of the world public and of the countries bordering the East Sea, and running counter to the aspiration for friendly coexistence of the peoples of Viet Nam and China, the above-mentioned acts once again show that the Chinese authorities are deliberately using force to expand the possibilities of conflict in the Truong Sa archipelago. These acts may lead to unpredictable consequences and are putting public opinion in the world, especially in South-East Asia, on the highest alert.

The Government of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam once again reaffirms its sovereignty over the Truong Sa and Hoang Sa archipelagos. The Vietnamese people and Government strongly protest against the armed provocations and encroachments upon Vietnamese territories by the Chinese authorities. At the same time, they are resolved to take every necessary measure to defend their independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity.

The Chinese side must put an immediate end to all its armed violations of the territorial integrity of Viet Nam and immediately withdraw its military forces from the sea area at the Truong Sa archipelago. It has to bear full responsibility for all consequences that may arise from their acts.

DOCUMENT S/19635*

Letter dated 17 March 1988 from the representative of Lebanon to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Arabic*]
[*17 March 1988*]

On instructions from my Government and further to our previous letters, the most recent being that dated 14 March 1988 [*S/19620*], I have the honour to inform you that today, 17 March, Israel carried out a new attack on Lebanese territory, the second of its kind in one week. At 1135 hours (local time), Israeli air force aircraft bombed the town of Aïnab, which is located approximately 20 kilometres south-east of Beirut. This resulted in the destruction of a building over the heads of its inhabitants; one person was killed, and three others, including an 18-month-old child, suffered extensive wounds.

The Lebanese Government, as it renews its vehement condemnation of the criminal acts of aggression carried out by Israel against peaceful Lebanese villages and towns, draws the attention of international public opinion to Israel's insistence on pursuing the bloody policy of terrorism anywhere in Lebanon, even though it be dozens of kilometres from its international frontiers, and on violating human values and customs without any regard for human lives, property and security.

Israel's justification of its actions by the pretext of combating terrorism is dangerous logic in international relations and is a manifestation of the racism on which Israel is based, which has no regard for the rights of others. This has led to the killing of hundreds of Lebanese and persons residing in Lebanese territory and has so far gone undeterred and unpunished.

The fresh Israeli attack is another example of the destructive policy followed by Israel in the Middle East region, which constitutes a constant threat to peace and security at the regional and international levels.

I request that this letter be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Rachid FAKHOURY
Permanent Representative of Lebanon
to the United Nations

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/222-S/19635.

DOCUMENT S/19636*

Letter dated 17 March 1988 from the representative of the Philippines to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*17 March 1988*]

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a statement made on 16 March 1988 by Raul S. Manglapus, Secretary for Foreign Affairs of the Philippines, on the resumption of the "war of the cities" between Iran and Iraq.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have this letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Manuel MENDEZ
Deputy Permanent Representative
of the Philippines
to the United Nations

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/223-S/19636.

ANNEX

Statement made on 16 March 1988 by the Secretary for Foreign Affairs of the Philippines

The Philippine Government expresses its serious concern and sadness over the resumption of the "war of the cities" between Iran and Iraq, which has resulted in the loss of innocent civilian lives on both sides.

The Philippine Government earnestly calls upon the parties to the conflict to exercise the utmost restraint and to abide by United Nations Security Council resolution 598 (1987), which contains the elements for the immediate settlement of their differences.

In this regard, the Philippine Government supports the recent statement of the Secretary-General of the United Nations urging the parties concerned to solve their conflict through peaceful means and to put an end to the bitter fighting.

DOCUMENT S/19637

Letter dated 17 March 1988 from the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*17 March 1988*]

Upon instruction from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that, on 16 March 1988, the criminal régime of Iraq carried out the following attacks against the cities of Iran.

Around noon, the city of Shiraz was aerially bombarded, a girls' high school and a hospital as well as some residential units being hit. As a result, 8 civilians were martyred and 93 were injured. The city of Bakhtaran was also aerially bombarded by Iraqi warplanes in the morning and the afternoon, as a result of which 36 civilians were martyred and 185 were injured.

The criminal and savage Iraqi régime also deployed chemical weapons in the operational theatre of Val Fajr on the said date; several civilians were martyred and injured.

It would be highly appreciated if this letter were circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammad Ja'afar MAHALLATI
Acting Permanent Representative
of the Islamic Republic of Iran
to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19638

Letter dated 17 March 1988 from the representative of Nicaragua to the President of the Security Council

[*Original: Spanish*]
[*17 March 1988*]

I have the honour to request you to convene a meeting of the Security Council urgently and immediately, in order to consider the serious situation created by the escalation of threats and aggression against my country and by the decision taken yesterday by the United States Government to send American troops to Honduran territory. This situation seriously endangers international peace and security.

(*Signed*) Julio ICAZA GALLARD
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission of Nicaragua
to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19639

Letter dated 17 March 1988 from the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*17 March 1988*]

I have the honour and the sad duty to inform you that as a practical reaction to Security Council statement of 16 March 1988 [*S/19626*], Iraq used chemical weapons on a massive scale in Val Fajr-10 operational theatre and also against Iraqi Kurdish areas. These inhuman attacks are carried out in flagrant violation of the 1925 Geneva Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous Other Gases,[19] and despite repeated mere condemnations by the Security Council of the Iraqi use of chemical weapons against both Iranian civilians and military forces. The last of such verbal condemnation was issued as a statement by the President of the Security Council on 14 May 1987 [*S/18863*].

The United Nations as a whole and the Security Council in particular are constitutionally responsible to adopt effective measures to uphold the authority of the 1925 Geneva Protocol.

The Islamic Republic of Iran hereby calls upon the international organization urgently to fulfil its obligations by compelling the criminal Iraqi régime to abandon its continuous use of chemical weapons and thus relieve the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran of the agony of considering retaliatory measures.

It would be highly apreciated if this letter were circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammad Ja'afar MAHALLATI
Acting Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19640*

Letter dated 16 March 1988 from the representative of Afghanistan to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*17 March 1988*]

I have the honour to transmit to you a statement of the Government of the Republic of Afghanistan.

I have further the honour to request the circulation of the statement as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Shah Mohammad DOST
Permanent Representative of Afghanistan to the United Nations

ANNEX

Statement of the Government of Afghanistan

The people of Afghanistan are following with keen attention the process of talks between Afghanistan and Pakistan which are being carried on through the special envoy of the Secretary-General of the United Nations. Our countrymen, citizens of Afghanistan, including those who are wandering in alien countries for different reasons, are pinning all their hopes and wishes on the speedy establishment of peace, security and conciliation in the misery-stricken land of Afghanistan.

The situation that emerged on the eve of the present round of talks in Geneva provided the reasons to believe that this round of talks would turn into the final one and that the people of Afghanistan would achieve a peaceful life, that the neighbouring countries and mankind as a whole would get rid of one of the most difficult and painful regional conflicts. This optimism was based on the realistic and constructive stand of the Republic of Afghanistan and the Soviet Union, which was explicitly cited in the 8 February statements of Najibullah [*S/19494, annex*] and Gorbachev [*S/19482, annex*].

As is known, 15 May 1988 has been fixed as the date for the commencement of the withdrawal of the Soviet limited military contingents. Undoubtedly, we were waiting for the Pakistani side also to show a sense of responsibility and political realism in the talks and take such a stand as to help undo the knot of Afghanistan. It is worth mentioning that the Pakistani side always linked the signing of the documents relating to the normalization of situation with the timetable for the return of the Soviet contingents.

The Afghan delegation to the Geneva talks, in accordance with the instructions given to it, is insistently endeavouring for the talks to be concluded with success. Agreement on the return of the Soviet contingents in nine months, half of which would return from Afghanistan in three months, is testifying to this fact.

However, the Pakistani delegation regretfully embarked upon the creation of different artificial obstacles slowing down the signature of the final accords. The Pakistani side particularly has stated that it lacked a directive for signing the accords. At the request of the Pakistani delegation, a recess to the talks was given to enable the delegation of Pakistan to receive instructions. The leadership of Pakistan still does not give up striving to link the signing of the Geneva talks with the establishment of a so-called interim Government. In addition, Pakistan as well as the United States of America presented some conditions which have nothing to do with the Geneva process and which testify to their efforts to dictate their conditions to Afghanistan in the establishment of bilateral relations with the Soviet Union.

It is to be reiterated once again that the questions of national reconciliation and the creation of a coalition Government in Afghanistan have not been included in the agenda of the Geneva talks and should be solved solely by the Afghans themselves, who may represent opposite sides, with-

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/224-S/19640.

out any interference from abroad. The Afghan-Pakistan talks in Geneva right from the very beginning covered the political solution of the foreign aspects of the problem of Afghanistan, not the internal political problems.

Of course, the leaderships of Pakistan and the United States of America can disrupt the process of the Geneva talks by drawing it into a deadlock and thus prolong the grief and sorrow of the people of Afghanistan. But nobody will be able to reverse the growing process of national reconciliation and the increasing efforts of the various strata of our society to reach a compromise, security and peace, and thus Pakistan is losing the historic chance for establishment of normal relations with Afghanistan as well as co-operation in the region and is dimming the hopes of all people of the world for betterment of the international atmosphere.

By postponing the signing of the Geneva accords under artificial pretexts, Pakistan and the United States of America are mistaken if they think that 15 May will still be the starting date for the withdrawal of the Soviet troops from Afghanistan.

Based on an agreement reached at Geneva, all the documents, including that relating to the return of the Soviet troops, will be enforced 60 days after signing of the accords. Thus, those who want to postpone the return of the Soviet troops naturally delay to the same extent the return of the Soviet troops, the responsibility for which will be borne by them.

Talks are under way in Geneva; it is still possible to take a decisive step to welcome each other by using common sense, political realism and good will.

DOCUMENT S/19641*

Letter dated 17 March 1988 from the representative of Cyprus to the Secretary-General

[Original: English]
[17 March 1988]

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to draw your urgent attention to new violations of the airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by Turkey's military air force, which took place on 15 March 1988. These violations, which were part of Turkish military exercises, code named HORIZON I (OFOUK), carried out by Turkey's illegal occupation forces in Cyprus, took place as follows.

1. From 0950 to 1000 hours two fighters, coming from southern Turkey, flew over Lapithos to Panagra and Ayios Ermolaos and then withdrew from the Lapithos area.

2. From 1035 to 1053 hours and from 1036 to 1050 hours two RF-4 fighters flew over the free areas of the Republic of Cyprus to Pomos Point, the first one from the Trikomo area along the south side of the Pentadaktylos range from east to west, and the second one from Apostolos Andreas, along the northern coast to Cyprus to Cape Kormakitis.

3. From 1122 to 1135 hours three F-4 fighters, coming from southern Turkey, flew over Lapithos-Ayios Ermolaos, Dikomo-Knodara-Akanthou.

Furthermore, on 16 March, at 1115 hours, a Turkish MCB mine-sweeper, originating from the north, violated the territorial waters of the Republic of Cyprus by a distance of three nautical miles north of the Pomos Point.

In strongly protesting, on behalf of my Government, these provocative Turkish military exercises and the new violations of the airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by Turkey's air force, I wish to draw your attention to the sensitive period of time at which these violations took place and, once again, to point out that these repeated aggressive actions violate the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus and are contrary to the Charter of the United Nations, as well as the resolutions of the General Assembly and the Security Council on the question of Cyprus.

I should be grateful if this letter were circulated as a document of the forty-second session of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Athena DIAMATARIS
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission of Cyprus
to the United Nations

* Circulated under the double symbol A/42/929-S/19641.

DOCUMENT S/19643*

Letter dated 17 March 1988 from the representative of Honduras to the Secretary-General

[Original: Spanish]
[17 March 1988]

I have the honour to transmit to you the text of the press release issued yesterday by the Honduran Ministry of Foreign Affairs concerning the invasion of Honduran territory by Nicaraguan troops.

I should be grateful if this note and its annex could be circulated as a document of the forty-second session of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Jorge Ramón HERNANDEZ ALCERRO
Permanent Representative of Honduras
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Press release issued on 16 March 1988 by the Honduran Ministry of Foreign Affairs

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Honduras wishes to inform the general public, in Honduras and throughout the world, of events which have taken place in the Honduran-Nicaraguan border region (Bocay sector of the department of Olancho):

1. On 15 March, the Honduran armed forces notified the President of the Republic of an encroachment on our territory by forces of the Sandinist People's Army: several hundred troops made an incursion into Honduran territory, with artillery support and with bombs being dropped from fixed-wing aircraft and helicopters.

2. With a view to preventing any worsening of the border situation, the President of Honduras contracted President Ortega and requested him to

* Circulated under the double symbol A/42/931-S/19643.

order his troops to refrain from encroaching on our territory and to withdraw immediately the military units which had invaded Honduras.

3. Similarly, he contacted President José Napoleón Duarte, President Vinicio Cerezo and President Oscar Arias Sánchez, requesting them to urge the Government of Nicaragua to halt its aggression against Honduras and withdraw the troops from the border region.

4. Also on 15 March, after the aforementioned telephone communications, President Azcona, with a view to safeguarding the security of the Honduran people, addressed a letter to the President of the United States of America, informing him of these developments and requesting his solidarity in countering the violation of Honduran territory. Inasmuch as the military action by the Sandinist People's Army in Honduran territory constitutes aggression, President Azcona, on the basis of the special security relationship with the United States and on the basis of international collective-security instruments, found it necessary to ask the United States Government for the effective and immediate assistance which Honduras needs in order to maintain its territorial sovereignty and integrity.

5. On 16 March, the United States Ambassador in Tegucigalpa, on express instructions from his Government, reaffirmed the United States commitment to support Honduras and provide any assistance needed by our country for the defence of its national sovereignty.

6. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has protested in the strongest terms to the Government of Nicaragua at the act of aggression, has demanded the immediate withdrawal of the invasion forces, and has warned that Government that it will take the necessary action to exercise its right of self-defence, as envisaged in Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations.

7. Honduras regrets that the Government of Nicaragua, through the internal and international use of force, persists in jeopardizing the effort to achieve a peaceful solution to its social conflict.

8. Tonight the President of Honduras again spoke with the President of Nicaragua and took the opportunity both to reiterate the urgent need to withdraw Sandinist troops from Honduran territory and to inform him of the steps taken by the Government of Honduras to safeguard its territorial sovereignty and integrity.

DOCUMENT S/19644

Letter dated 17 March 1988 from the representative of Iraq to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Arabic*]
[*17 March 1988*]

On instructions from my Government and further to our many letters concerning the Iranian régime's bombardment of purely residential areas in Iraq, I have the honour to inform you that the forces of that régime on 16 and 17 March 1988 carried out the acts of aggression set forth in the attached annex.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ismat KITTANI
Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations

ANNEX

Iranian bombardment

Time	*Place*	*Projectiles*	*Casualties and damage*
1925 to 0550	Centre of Basra city: Al-Buradi'iyah, Al-Jazair, Al-Bunyhah, Qurnah district and Zubayr	86	Damage to 29 houses, 11 businesses and 8 civilian vehicles; 3 houses destroyed
0155 to 0215	Maysan governorate: Qal'at Saliah	18	—
1630 to 2245	Wasit governorate: Badrah district	50	Damage to a number of houses and businesses
1230 to 2015	Sulaymaniyah governorate: town of Qala Diza	6	—
0600 to 1530	Centre of Basra city: Al-Tuwaysah, Al-Sa'i, Al-Mutaybah, Al-Jazair, Al-Buradi'iyah, Al-Dakir, Al'Ma'qil, Al-Ashshar, Al-Harithah subdistrict and Qurnah district	49	2 civilians wounded; damage to 8 houses, 5 businesses, a school and 2 civilian vehicles
0945 to 1030	Wasit governorate: Badrah district	7	—
0614 to 0627	Centre of Arbil governorate: residential areas	Raid by 2 warplanes	2 citizens killed and 25 wounded, including 7 women and 6 children; damage to 14 houses, an elementary school and a civilian vehicle

Time	*Place*	*Projectiles*	*Casualties and damage*
0611 to 0627	Tamim governorate	Raid by 1 warplane, which fired 4 missiles	A number of citizens killed, including several women, children and old people; damage to and destruction of a number of houses and businesses
1000 to 1650	Sulaymaniyah governorate: Darbandikhan district and town of Qala Diza	40	1 citizen wounded; damage to a house and a trailer
1316 to 1648	Maysan governorate: Ali al-Gharbi district	28	—
2230 to 1400	Diyala governorate: Khanaqin district	15	Damage to 1 house and 4 businesses

DOCUMENT S/19645* **

Letter dated 1 March 1988 from the representative of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to the Secretary-General

[Original: English/French]
[17 March 1988]

On instructions from my Government and further to my earlier letters concerning the situation along the Lao-Thai border in the region of Nabonoi commune, Botène district, Sayaboury province, I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the memorandum dated 29 February 1988 issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

I should be grateful if you would arrange for the text of this letter and its annex to be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Alounkeo KITTIKHOUN
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission
of the Lao People's Democratic Republic
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Memorandum of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic issued on 29 February 1988

I

The incidents that have occurred between Laos and Thailand in the Lao area of Nabonoi commune, Botène district, Sayaboury province, started at the beginning of June 1987, when the Thai side dispatched its troops to occupy this area and gave protection to a private company to cut illegally and send Lao wood to Thailand. Lao local border patrols during their inspection tours have more than once issued warnings to the offenders that have been caught red-handed, but the Thai side has not paid attention to the warnings, thus leading to confrontation. Thereafter, it has reinforced and stationed its armed forces in this area and unilaterally declared that Nam Huong Nga River is the border area between the two countries, which is contrary to the 1907 protocol that stipulates that Nam Huong River constitutes the borderline. This is the reason why this incident has gradually developed into a large-scale aggression that has finally led the Thai soldiers to encroach upon Lao territory.

Since the beginning of August 1987, the Thai side has stationed its military forces along the Lao border in this area and on 18 August it sent three small battalions, seven companies with the support of heavy artillery, across the border into Lao land in the area of Phu Soi Dao mountain, for the purpose of unleashing nibbling attacks against Nabonoi commune, Botène district, of the Lao province of Sayaboury, which is situated 8 kilometres deep inside Lao territory. Then on 29 August the Lao Ministry of Foreign Affairs urged the Thai side to withdraw its troops and to seek ways and means for a settlement of the problem through negotiation (aide-mémoire of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic handed to the Thai Ambassador in Vientiane, on 29 August 1987). The Thai side did not in any way respond to the Lao proposals.

Since then, the Thai troops have continued to encroach upon the Lao territory in this area and have launched a large-scale offensive against the positions held on different hills by Lao local troops which are safeguarding the territorial integrity of their fatherland.

Since the beginning of December 1987 the Thai side has purposely provoked the worsening of the situation. It has continued to make wide use of its troops being sent from many regions in continuous attacks on Lao territory in this area. These troops, having been provided with aerial support and protection, as well as with support of short- and long-range heavy artillery, were using chemical and phosphorous-tipped shells as well as fragmentation bombs. Their jet fighters have dropped bombs and heavy artillery shells on Lao territory without discrimination, sometimes reaching 30 kilometres deep inside it, causing heavy loss of life and damage to the local population's properties. The escalating military activities led by the Thai aggressors constitute a trampling of the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Lao People's Democratic Republic. This has led to the most serious tension ever brought about over the past 12 years of relations between Laos and Thailand. It undermines the relation of friendship and good-neighbourliness between the two countries and is detrimental to the interests and fervent aspirations of the two peoples, thus violating the content of the 1979 Lao-Thai joint communiqués. These activities are running counter to the general trend towards a peaceful settlement of disputes which is firmly gaining momentum in South-East Asia and throughout the world.

Thanks to the creativity of the President of the Council of Ministers of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, to which the Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand has responded positively, both Lao and Thai military delegations have led consultations among themselves and have concluded an agreement for a cease-fire and for its extension until a solution to the border problem in this area is reached through political negotiations between the governmental delegations of the two sides to be started on 3 March 1988.

The Lao and the Thai peoples—as well as the countries that are friendly to the Lao People's Democratic Republic and to the Kingdom of Thailand throughout the world that have extended large support to the cease-fire agreement reached between Laos and Thailand—will closely follow the peaceful negotiations aiming at settling the incidents that have occurred at the border area between the two countries.

In this memorandum, the Lao People's Democratic Republic deems it necessary to give clear explanations about the truth on the area of Nabonoi commune, Botène district of the Lao Sayaboury province and on the Lao

* Incorporating document S/19645/Corr. 1 of 25 March 1988.
** Circulated under the double symbol A/43/225-S/19645.

position concerning the settlement of the current incidents that have occurred at the border area between Laos and Thailand.

II

From the legal and effective administrative standpoint, the region of Nabonoi commune, Botène district, Sayaboury province, is Lao territory.

From the legal and effective administrative standpoint, the Nabonoi commune, Botène district, Sayaboury province, lies under the sovereignty of the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

The assertion made by the Kingdom of Thailand that this area comes under Rom Klao village, Chattakarn district, Phitsanoulok province of Thailand is without concrete basis.

Mr. Prem Tinsulanonda, Prime Minister of the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand, stated during his visit to the vicinity of this area that: "It is well known that our border, in conformity with the international principles, is situated at Nam Huong Nga which is clearly shown in the maps". And, on the same day, the spokesman of the Thai Foreign Ministry stated that "the territory in the vicinity of Bane Rom Klao is in Thai territory following the 1907 Franco-Siamese treaty and the protocol . . . This treaty designates the river which is taking its source from Phu Khao Mieng, that is, the Nam Huong Nga, in conformity with the map attached to the treaty".

In his telegram of 12 February 1988, responding to the urgent telegram sent by the Lao President of the Council of Ministers on 11 February 1988, the Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand wrote that "the acts led by the Thai side in the area of Bane Rom Klao were necessary for the safeguarding of the national sovereignty based on the widely and legally recognized Treaty and maps".

What is the truth concerning this area?

1. The Franco-Siamese treaty concluded on 23 March 1907, and the protocol annexed thereto, are the legal and valid basis for the border demarcation between Laos and Thailand.

Clause 2 of the protocol stipulates that "on the side of Luang-Prabang, the southern border starts at the mouth of Nam Huong on the bank of the Mekong River and follows the thalweg of this river until its source at Phu Khao Mieng".

The treaty specifies clearly that the Nam Huong river is the borderline between the two countries and not the Nam Huong Nga river, as has been interpreted unilaterally by the Thai officials. The local Lao people also call the Nam Huong river Nam Huong Gnai or Nam Huong. As for the Nam Huong Nga purportedly designated by the Thai side, it is just a tributary of the Nam Huong river (Nga means tributary, branch and the local Lao people call it Nam Huong Noi just to differentiate it from the Nam Huong river). A Thai economic review of February 1988 has published that the site of confrontation is situated between the Nam Huong Gnai and the Nam Huong Noi in a surface of nearly 70 square kilometres, and the latter is called Nam Huong Nga by the Thai side and Nga means tributary, affluent.

In the 1907 Franco-Siamese treaty, as well as in all relevant legal documents signed prior to or after it, such as the Franco-Siamese agreement of 29 June 1907, it has clearly been stipulated that the Nam Huong river is the borderline. The interpretation to the effect that Nam Huong Nga should be the borderline is definitely without legal concrete foundation.

2. The Thai side invoked the map purportedly attached to the treaty as proof but afterwards alleged that this map is only a similar one. The above excerpts from Clause 2 of the protocol concerning the border delineation did not make any mention of maps or schematic sketches allegedly attached to the treaty, while on the contrary, Clause 1 of the same protocol mentions a schematic sketch attached thereto when speaking about the Kampuchean-Thai boundary. A Franco-Siamese Joint Commission was nominated in conformity with article 4 of the 1907 Franco-Siamese treaty to demarcate the borderline in this region but did not carry out its work because its main task had already been accomplished in accordance with the letter and spirit of the Treaty of 1907. This is the final solution to all problems related to the boundaries between Indochina and Siam which were agreed upon following the implementation of the border demarcation in conformity with the treaty of 13 February 1904. The report concerning the final meeting of this Commission sent by Mr. Monguers, Chairman of the French Commission to the General Governor of Indochina on 17 June 1908 reads as follows: The Commission did not proceed to any consultation over this area and considered that the different maps drawn by the former Franco-Siamese Commission (which was formed under the provisions of Article 3 of 13 February 1904 treaty) has made clear recommendations concerning the Nam Huong river.

3. The Thai side argues that the Nam Huong river stipulated in the Treaty must be the Nam Huong Nga because only the latter has its source in the Phu Khao Mieng. The Phu Khao Mieng is a massif. The accuracy of this fact was proved by Mr. Aime Grand, administrative commissioner of the French Government, who, after having met with the Siamese representative, Phya Ramrithi, sent a report dated 19 July 1907 to the Superior Resident in Vientiane an excerpt of which follows: "The Nam Huong river is composed of two streamlines which have their sources at the same Phu Khao Mieng and are called Nam Huong Gnai and Nam Huong Noi. I have informed the Siamese side that since there are two streamlines, the Nam Huong Gnai which is the wider must be the real source of the Nam Huong river."

4. The Thai side argues that in conformity with the international principles, the Nam Huong Nga must be the borderline.

(*a*) This is not correct since the treaty and protocol did not specify that the Nam Huong Nga is the borderline. If the Nam Huong Nga is to be considered as the borderline, following international practice, initially, the treaty and the protocol should clearly mention the confluence between the Nam Huong Nga and the Nam Huong river and explain that the border traces along the Nam Huong Nga to the north until its source in the Phu Khao Mieng. Moreover, on many maps, the name Nam Huong is written in Latin capital letters under the stream of the Nam Huong river with the word *Nam* written on the west and the word *Huong* on the east side of the mouth of Nam Huong Nga. Some maps even mention the *Nam Huong* on the western side of the mouth of Nam Huong Nga. Thus, Nam Huong Nga cannot be the borderline as indicated on the map with the scale of 1/500.000 printed by the General Staff department of the Thai army on 18 February 1909 or (18 February Rattanakosin 127).

(*b*) The vicinity of Nabonoi is a mountainous area, and when delimitating the border along such a chain of mountains, usually and in accordance with international practice the watershed is considered as the borderline. The western border of Sayaboury province, which is adjacent to Thailand, follows the watershed between the Mekong basin and the Menam basin from the north to the south. All treaties, agreements and protocols concluded between France and Siam, while taking the Nam Huong river as the borderline, were in complete conformity with the above-mentioned international principles and practices. Since the Nam Huong Nga river is situated in Lao territory on the eastern side of the watershed between the Mekong basin and the Menam basin, it cannot be the borderline.

5. The Thai side has always manoeuvred and urged the reconsideration of the Lao-Thai boundaries. In 1941 the administration exerted pressure on the Vichy Government of France to sign a Franco-Siamese treaty on 9 May 1941 in Tokyo under the auspices of Japan to transfer the right bank of the territory of Luang-Prabang (actually Sayaboury province) and the right bank of Muang Bassak (Champassack province) to Thailand. After the Second World War, the conference of the Allied Forces in Washington approved the conclusion of a settlement agreement by the French and Siamese Governments on 17 November 1946, cancelling the treaty of Tokyo, bringing the borderline back to its former place prior to the treaty of Tokyo.

A Commission of Conciliation was nominated as stipulated in the agreement of 17 November 1946 and was composed of representatives of France, Siam and representatives of three neutral countries, namely, Peru, Great Britain and the United States of America, with the latter's representative as Chairman, in order to study the data concerning the nationalities, the geography and economy of both the French and Siameses sides, to reconsider or reaffirm the different articles of the treaty of 3 October 1893, of the convention of 13 February 1904 and of the treaty of 23 March 1907. During the meetings of the Commission, the Siamese side tried to claim that almost all Lao territory belonged to Siam. According to the report issued from the last meeting on 27 June 1947, the Commission had rejected all Siamese territorial claims as well as the proposals for re-examination of the 1893 treaty, the 1904 convention and the 1907 treaty. The Commission reaffirmed the different clauses of the 1893 treaty, of the 1904 convention and of the 1907 treaty. The Commission also clearly stressed the borderline on the right bank of the Mekong river as follows: "geographically, the Commission considers the watershed between the Mekong river and the Menam as an adequate and natural borderline, built up strongly and very clearly".

But in June 1984, the Thai side committed aggression and occupied three Lao villages: Bane May, Bane Kang, and Bane Savang, Paklay district, Sayaboury province. In order to give ground to its aggression, it has revised the map and claimed its validity and has sent it to the Secretary-General of the United Nations. It has removed the border marks and stressed that on the legal and effective administrative standpoint, the area

of the three villages belongs to the Thai territory. It has at first rejected the Lao proposal for negotiation and set conditions for it. But, thanks to the just position and the good will gesture of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, world public opinion has firmly stood by the Lao side. Mr. Siddhi Savetsila, the Thai Minister for Foreign Affairs, had to declare before the General Assembly of the United Nations on 2 October 1984 the withdrawal of Thai troops from the three Lao villages.

At present, the Thai side is again behaving in the same manner. It has revised the maps of Nabonoi area, invoking maps which do not possess any legal value, distorting the 1907 treaty and its protocol relating to the delineation of the borderline. It has claimed without any sense of responsibility that this area is Thai territory under the agreement concluded between Thailand and the Royal Government of Laos when Princee Souvanna Phouma was Prime Minister (statement made by the spokesman of the Thai Foreign Ministry, on 31 January 1988). It has set unreasonable pre-conditions to obstruct negotiations. Moreover, it has established a village under the name of Bane Rom Klao in Lao territory in the vicinity of Nabonoi and has claimed loudly that the region of Nabonoi comes under the Thai village of Rom Klao.

Bane Rom Klao was never mentioned on the Thai map. The Thai journal "Bane Muong" issued on 3 June 1987 published a report from the police of Chattakarn district, Phitsanoulok province: "Our Bane Rom Klao (in Thai version) is a village . . . established by the army for security reasons. There are great numbers of Thai Hmongs and Lao refugees Hmongs living in this village". General Prachuab Suntrangkul, Thai Minister of Interior, said: "They used to exchange visits . . . if the Lao want us to buy goods, we'll give them what we have mutually agreed upon. If they prohibit us to cut wood, then we shouldn't do it." ("Bane Muong" journal issued on 30 December 1987). The Thai journal "Neo Na" issued on 15 January 1988, wrote that "Bane Rom Klao was established in 1982". The weekly news "Khao Phiset" of 26 August-1 September 1987 wrote: "Bane Rom Klao was established in 1984, sheltering the Hmongs forces, former members of the Thai Communist Party who have surrendered to the Government. When the Thai side built the strategic road along the frontier, they did not much skirt away from the frontier. But in this area, their strategic road is not built along Nam Huong Nga river".

It shows that it has known quite well for a long time where the borderline between the two countries in this area is situated.

It is clear that the Thai side cannot rightly claim that a village which it itself established in the 1980s in Lao territory constitutes legal evidence confirming that Thai administration has been effectively established over this area for the past 80 years since the signing of the 1907 Franco-Siamese treaty.

From the effective administrative standpoint, Nabonoi commune, Botène district, Sayaboury province, was formerly under French and later on under Lao administration, except for the short period between the signing of the Franco-Siamese treaty on 9 May 1941 and 17 November 1946, when the Franco-Siamese settlement agreement was signed.

The inhabitants of Nabonoi commune, particularly the elders, know well where the borderline between Laos and Thailand is situated in this area.

Mr. Pong, an elderly local inhabitant who took part in the border control in 1931 (the control commission was composed of three French, seven Thais and one Lao, Grandfather Pong), has described in detail the road he took to control the border marks and affirms that the borderline traces along the stream of Nam Huong and the watershed of Phou Soi Dao or Phu Khao Mieng.

Mr. Douangchit Phetlangsy, Chairman of the Administrative Committee of Botène district, affirms that, concerning the tasks of national defence and public order in our district of Botène, in the past as well as at the present, we have posted forces to rigorously control the Franco-Siamese border established in 1907. In the past, we know about people living on the Thai bank who used to come for a living or to raise their cattle on the Lao bank. But we consider it in the context of good-neighbourliness between brotherly countries and have not made out of it a serious issue.

But later on, starting from 1986, we noticed that the Thai side built a road from Sene Tha, Lao Kohok crossing Nam Huong Paman to penetrate and illegally cut our woods in the region of Khun Houei Say and Huong Nga. In this respect, the Lao side has protested several times to the Thai authorities.

In 1986, I personally wrote a protest letter to the Chief of Na Heo district and called for appropriate measures to stop all acts of intrusion and illegal cutting of Lao woods in the region. But the Thai side not only refused to comply, but also sent companies of rangers into the region until the armed clash at Hill 1273 took place.

Mr. Sounthone Pathammavong, former Supreme Commander of the National Armed Forces, ex-Defence Minister of the Lao Kingdom and presently a member of the Lao National Edification Front of Vientiane Prefecture, firmly stated: "During the period when he was assuming these responsibilities, no border dispute has ever occurred in this region, because the Thais themselves recognized that this region was Lao territory."

Mr. Leuam Insixiengmay, former Deputy Prime Minister of the Government of the Kingdom of Laos, presently permanent member of the Supreme People's Assembly stated:

"I will be 74 this year, and I have never heard of this region as belonging to Siam in the past or at present.

"When the general elections for deputies were held in the entire Laos, the citizens of Nabonoi, Nakok were regularly registered in the list of voters of the Botène legislative area and the Thais never made any protest over this. This kind of election had been organized seven times under the former régime.

"From 1948 to 1975, the year of the establishment of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, I participated in almost all the Governments or at least was a deputy. I have never heard the Thai side raising a border issue with the Lao side but have always respected the border agreement signed between France and Siam. Moreover, modification of the borderline in maps has never been heard of . . . The statement made by the Thai side that different maps have been modified with the former Lao Government's consent is just a lie. I also refute it. If it was true, as Deputy Prime Minister, I would have been informed about it."

It is clear, from the legal and effective administrative standpoint, that the region of Nabonoi, Botène district, Sayaboury province, is the territory of the Lao People's Democratic Republic. The allegation made by the Thai side that this region comes under Bane Rom Klao of Thailand, from the legal and administrative standpoint, is without concrete basis.

III

After the foundation of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, the Lao Government has always implemented a policy of peace and friendship towards all countries. With regard to neighbouring countries, the Lao People's Democratic Republic has continually respected their independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity and endeavoured to bring about close relations and to turn the common border into one of peace and friendship.

As for the neighbouring Kingdom of Thailand with whom it shares a common border of 1,650 kilometres, the Lao People's Democratic Republic has always respected the traditional brotherly friendship and neighbourly relations between Lao and Thai peoples and has done its utmost to settle the differences and incidents between the two countries by peaceful means.

In this spirit, the Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic signed two joint communiqués with the Kingdom of Thailand in January and April 1979 which clearly define the guidelines and principles that govern relations between the two countries, as follows:

Mutual respect for the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of each country;

Respect for the right of each country to exist without interference or aggression from outside;

Non-interference in the imernal affairs of each other. Subversive activities, be they direct or indirectt, and against each other are prohibited;

Settlement of all incidents by peaceful means in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and on the basis of equality;

Non-use of armed force or threat of force against each other. No permission should be granted to other countries in whatever form to use its territory for military bases with the aim of aggression, threat and interference.

The joint communiqué of April 1979 also clearly states:

"Both governments agree to turn the entire Lao-Thai border (fluvial and terrestrial) into one of peace and friendship on the basis of respect for the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity and legitimate rights of each country, and to solve all incidents between the two countries by peaceful means.

"In this respect, both sides will consult together on ways and means of solving problems relating to military strongholds between the two countries, the exchange of visits between the peoples living near the Lao-Thai border, necessary and efficient principles aiming at restraining all activities led by bad elements who are using this border area as a sanctuary, creating disorder which is prejudicial to peace and tranquil-

lity of the peoples living on both sides of the border; *they will strive to educate the people, the militia, the officials and the patrols from all social strata of the State, namely, the soldiers who are performing their duty along the border between the two countries by exhorting them to deeply grasp the Lao-Thai friendly relations and to correctly implement the regulations agreed upon.*"

This question was reaffirmed once again in the speech delivered by the President of the Council of Ministers, Mr. Kaysone Phomvihane, at the annual session of the People's Supreme Assembly, on 2 February 1988: "Towards the Kingdom of Thailand, we will continue to implement our consistent policy for the legitimate benefit of our two peoples, for peace, tranquillity, friendship and co-operation between the countries in the region. We will do our utmost to solve the incidents by negotiation on the basis of the principles formulated in the two Lao-Thai joint communiqués of 1979."

In reality, after two rounds of negotiations between Laos and Thailand in November 1986 and March 1987, even though many issues still remained pending, the relations between the two countries were improved in many fields.

At the sixtieth birthday anniversary of the Thai King, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic informed the newly arrived Thai ambassador that the Acting President of the Republic, Mr. Phoumi Vongvichit, wished personally to present his greetings on the King's anniversary. And it was also on this important occasion that the Acting President of the Lao People's Democratic Republic and many members of the Lao Government attended the reception hosted by the Thai Embassy in Vientiane.

In the face of the current incident, from the very first day, the Lao side has exercised self-restraint as much as possible and has tried to avoid all confrontation and has, in earnest, put forward proposals for negotiations with the aim of settling together the present incident on the basis of equality without any pre-conditions. As for the Thai private companies' five workers who penetrated Lao territory in this area to exploit wood, they were arrested and handed over to the local people's court for judgement but, in the end, those offenders were granted amnesty and freedom to go back to their families. While the Thai side has mobilized the armed forces in a great number in order to attack and encroach upon the Lao territory in this area, the Lao side, in the *aide-mémoire* of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs handed to the Thai Ambassador in Vientiane on 29 August 1987 made the following appeal: "the Thai side, responsible for the situation, has the duty to withdraw its troops from Lao territory and find ways to settle this problem through negotiation in order to avoid any unwanted development in relation to the present situation".

While the Thai side has launched continuous offensives with numerous military forces and has strained the situation as much as possible, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic issued a statement on 27 December 1987, [*S/19389, annex*] proposing that both sides hold negotiations in order to together settle this incident. Thereafter, in the *aide-mémoire* of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic sent to the Thai Ministry of Foreign Affairs, as well as in the different statements made by the spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, the Lao side has reiterated several times its proposals for negotiation on the basis of equality and without any pre-conditions with the aim of settling the present incident in a brief period of time.

On 25 January 1988, in view of the violent and most dangerous situation which has occurred presently, keeping in mind its responsibility towards the Lao as well as the Thai people and towards the expectations for the cessation of bloodshed and killing of Lao and Thai families, and in view of such a serious undermining of the friendly relations of the Lao and Thai peoples, which is contrary to the tendency for dialogue prevailing in the region, the Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic issued a statement [*S/19457, annex*] calling for negotiations aiming at settling the present incident by peaceful means. The statement clearly indicated that: the Lao Government "stands ready to send a delegation to Bangkok in the beginning of February 1988 to negotiate with the Thai side. If, for any reason, the latter would not be able to receive it, the Lao People's Democratic Republic is ready to invite the Thai delegation to Vientiane during that same period of time."

It is most regrettable that the proposals filled with the good will put forward by the Lao side have only received rigid answers from the Thai side, such as: "We must shuffle out the aggressors from our territory without taking into account the casualties. This is a normal fact in fighting" (the speech of the Thai Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanonda of 5 February 1988); "Thailand is ready to have important negotiation on the condition that not one single Lao soldier would remain in our territory" and "The Thai Ministry of Foreign Affairs has no compromising policy over this problem" (Thai Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Siddhi Savetsila, in his speech of 27 January 1988 at the press conference at Bangkok).

With the deep conviction that the military escalation chosen by the Thai side will not only bring resentment and death to the Lao and Thai peoples but will also undermine the atmosphere for dialogue between the members of the Association of South-East Asian Nations and the Indochinese countries, on 11 February 1988, for the benefit of peace and security in this region, the President of the Council of Ministries of the Lao People's Democratic Republic took the initiative of sending an urgent telegram [*S/19521, annex III*] to the Prime Minister of Thailand [*S/19521, annex IV*] proposing that "the armed forces from both sides . . . organize a meeting in view of an immediate settlement of the problem. The Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic stands ready to send its military delegation to Bangkok or to receive the Thai military delegation in Vientiane for a consultation over the following proposals:

"(1) Both sides should cease fire instantly and should move their troops away from each other and establish a joint military commission aimed at supervising the cease-fire and the troop removal.

"(2) Both sides nominate a technical survey team to inspect the field, to search for a solution of the border problem in this region and to submit it to their respective Governments.

"(3) Both sides appeal to the good offices of the Secretary-General of the United Nations for the implementation of agreements reached by both sides."

For that reason the military delegation of the two countries held talks at Bangkok on 16 and 17 February 1988, issued a joint communiqué [*S/19520, annex*] and concluded a cease-fire agreement which provides for the separation of the antagonizing armed forces from each other in the disputed area, the setting up of a joint military committee that was charged with the task of controlling and monitoring the mutually agreed cease-fire, issuing orders to their respective armed forces stationed in the border area between the Lao People's Democratic Republic and the Kingdom of Thailand to refrain absolutely from using weapons and armed force against each other, in the spirit of mutual understanding. At the talks held at Vientiane on 23 and 24 February 1988, between them the military delegations of both sides highly praised the result of the implementation of the cease-fire agreement and unanimously agreed to "extend the implementation of the cease-fire until the border problem in this area is settled through peaceful means by the governmental delegations of both sides".

By the terms of the aforesaid agreement, the Lao side withdrew its forces away from the embattled area, while the armed forces of Thailand were still stationed in the area of the Lao commune of Nabonoi. This testified to the good will of Laos aimed at generating an atmosphere of mutual understanding and at creating favourable conditions for negotiations for the purpose of peacefully settling the current armed clashes. This does not mean in any way that the Lao side forgoes its sovereignty over the piece of land in this area.

The Lao Government and people are satisfied with the outcome of the talks held between the military delegations of both countries and highly praise the sense of responsibility and endeavours exerted by both delegations to bring to an end the armed conflict in this area and to reach an agreement under which the use of armed forces will be indefinitely banned along the Lao-Thai border.

The Lao Government and people wish to thank the fraternal Thai people as well as social strata that have, with high sense of responsibility, contributed directly or indirectly to the ending of the recent useless bloodshed which was mourned by the fraternal Lao and Thai peoples.

The political talks between the governmental delegations of Laos and Thailand will be held on 3 March 1988. The Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic pledges to do its utmost to make this important negotiation a brilliant success. It hopes that the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand will hold business-like negotiations with it with a view to settling judiciously the incident that has occurred in this area of the Lao People's Democratic Republic border, in conformity with the Franco-Siamese treaty of 23 March 1907 which both sides have consistently and unceasingly acknowledged and implemented, thus attending to the earnest interests and aspirations of the two peoples, in accordance with the principles set forth in the 1979 Lao-Thai joint communiqués, international law and the Charter of the United Nations.

IV

The correct position and good will of the Lao People's Democratic Republic have enjoyed praise and encouragement from international public opinion and friendly countries. The fraternal socialist States, the friendly countries and the Secretary-General of the United Nations have extended strong support to the Lao People's Democratic Republic's policy aimed at peacefully settling the dispute. Wide international opinion has praised and supported the fact that both sides agreed to sit at the negotiating table so as to settle peacefully the present situation and to create an atmosphere propitious to mutual understanding so as to promote the negotiating process aimed at peacefully settling the conflict situation for the benefit of restoring the strong relations of friendship that have existed between the Lao People's Democratic Republic and the Kingdom of Thailand.

But it is regrettable that, through their impudent utterances, reactionary forces have yet shown themselves to be hostile towards the Lao and Thai peoples by attempting to protract the armed confrontation and to review bygone resentment and bitterness which augur ill for mutual understanding.

The Lao People's Democratic Republic wishes to express its gratitude to fraternal countries, friendly countries, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, international organizations and peoples all over the world, as well as all peoples from different social strata in Thailand who have sympathized with and welcomed the settling of the Lao-Thai border dispute through peaceful means. The Lao People's Democratic Republic earnestly hopes that they will contribute towards the concrete outcome of the forthcoming negotiations between Laos and Thailand aimed at correctly settling the current dispute in conformity with the Franco-Siamese treaty of 23 March 1907 and its protocol and the principles set forth in the two Lao-Thai joint communiqués of 1979, international law and the Charter of the United Nations, the interest of friendship and good-neighbourliness between Laos and Thailand as well as that of peace and stability in this region and in the rest of the world as well.

[*Two accompanying maps are not reproduced in the present* Supplement *and may be consulted in the files of the Secretariat.*]

DOCUMENT S/19646

Letter dated 18 March 1988 from the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*18 March 1988*]

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that as a result of the missile attack by Iraq on the city of Tehran on 7 March 1988, 30 civilians were martyred and 100 injured. The same attack damaged several residential units and more than 20 public and private vehicles.

It would be highly appreciated if this letter were circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammad Ja'afar MAHALLATI
Acting Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19647

Letter dated 18 March 1988 from the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*18 March 1988*]

Upon instructions from my Government and pursuant to my letter dated 17 March 1988 [*S/19639*] concerning the Iraqi use of chemical weapons in violation of the 1925 Geneva Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases,[19] I have the honour to inform you of the horrific details of the Iraqi chemical attacks on 16 March against the beseiged Iraqi town of Halabja as well as Khormal, Dojaila and other nearby villages in the Val Fajr-10 operational region.

The Iraqi chemical bombardment resulted in the death of some 4,000 residents and wounded thousands of others, including women and children. The wounded are being evacuated to hospitals behind the front lines by the Iranian forces.

It would be highly appreciated if this letter were circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammad Ja'afar MAHALLATI
Acting Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19648

Letter dated 18 March 1988 from the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*18 March 1988*]

Further to my letters of 17 and 18 March 1988 [*S/19639 and S/19647*], I have the honour to draw your attention to the madness of the Iraqi régime, which has not even spared its own citizens from blind and massive chemical attacks, as well as to the urgency of an appropriate reaction on the part of the international Organization.

In this context, an article entitled "Iraq now Middle East's biggest chemical weapon producer" appeared in the *Jane's Defence* issue of 27 February 1988, revealing Iraq's production and stockpiling of chemical agents; the Iraqi régime's renewed use of chemical weapons were predicted.

A copy of the article in herewith enclosed.[20]

It would be highly appreciated if this letter and its annex were circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammad Ja'afar MAHALLATI
Acting Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19650

Letter dated 18 March 1988 from the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*18 March 1988*]

Upon instruction from my Government and further to my letter of 17 March 1988 [*S/19639*] and the two letters of 18 March [*S/19647 and S/19648*], I have the honour to inform you that yesterday afternoon, 17 March, the camp inhabited by Iraqi Kurdish immigrants in the vicinity of Marivan became the target of massive chemical attacks by Iraq. As a result 5 people have so far been reported to have been martyred and 16 others injured.

Due to the escalation and gravity of Iraqi resort to the chemical warfare, it is urgently requested that you arrange for a United Nations team of experts on chemical warfare to carry out an on-sight investigation and to report to the international community.

It would be highly appreciated if this letter were circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammad Ja'afar MAHALLATI
Acting Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19651

Letter dated 18 March 1988 from the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*18 March 1988*]

Upon instruction from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that on this day, the criminal Iraqi régime bombarded the villages of Ghalehchi and Margsharai in the vicinity of Marivan on the main Sanandaj-Marivan road. As a result, 45 civilians were martyred and 100 injured; the martyrs included some children.

It would be highly appreciated if this letter were circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammad Ja'afar MAHALLATI
Acting Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19652

Letter dated 19 March 1988 from the representative of Iraq to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Arabic*]
[*21 March 1988*]

Acting on instructions from my Government and further to the letter dated 14 March 1988 addressed to you by Mr. Tariq Aziz, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Iraqi Republic [*see S/19618*], and to my letter dated 16 March, I have the honour to inform you that the aggressive, expansionist Iranian régime fired four ground-to-ground missiles at the cities of Baghdad, Mosul and Kirkuk on 16 and 18 March:

Date	*Time*	*Place*
16 March	1236	Baghdad
18 March	1308	Mosul
18 March	1930	Kirkuk
18 March	2003	Mosul

The four missiles landed in residential neighbourhoods, killing or wounding a number of civilians, including women and children, and damaging a number of dwellings, stores, civilian vehicles and other property.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter distributed as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ismat KITTANI
Permanent Representative of Iraq
to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19653

Letter dated 19 March 1988 from the representative of Iraq to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Arabic*]
[*21 March 1988*]

I have the honour to inform you that, between 1708 hours on 17 March and 1800 hours on 18 March 1988 local time, the aggressive Iranian armed forces bombarded purely urban residential areas in Iraq. The details are as follows:

Time	*Place*	*Number of missiles*	*Casualties and damage*
1708 to 2100	The centre of Basra city, and the following areas: Sa'udiyah, Al-Jaza'ir, Al-Jazirah, Al-Buradi'iyah, Al-Hakimiyah, Al-Mutayhah, Al-Sa'i, Al-Dakir, Al-Asma'i, Al-Tuwaysah, Old Basra, Al-Tahsiniyah, Al-Zahra and Al-Jumhuriyah; Al-Harithah subdistrict; Qurnah district	138	5 citizens, including 3 children, killed and 24, including 5 children and 7 women, injured; 4 dwellings destroyed; and Basra General Hospital, Al-Ashar preparatory school and 3 vehicles damaged
1819 to 1828	Capital of Arbil governorate: Badawah, Aswaq, Sirwan, Shuresh and Al-Mu'allimin	Raid by 2 warplanes	3 citizens, including 2 children, killed, and 51 children and 20 women injured; 21 dwellings, Salah Al-Din mosque and 3 vehicles damaged

Time	*Place*	*Number of missiles*	*Casualties and damage*
1345 to 2300	Capital of Sulaymaniyah governorate and its outskirts; Qala Diza district, and Beymalik housing complex	62	2 citizens killed and 4 injured; 6 dwellings damaged
0715 to 1800	Diyala governorate: Khanaqin	43	2 women injured

I should be grateful if you would have this letter distributed as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ismat KITTANI
Permanent Representative of Iraq
to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19654

Letter dated 19 March 1988 from the representative of Iraq to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Arabic*]
[*21 March 1988*]

I have the honour to inform you that the aggressor Iranian armed forces bombarded purely civilian residential centres in Iraq with artillery and warplanes from 0700 hours until 1730 hours (local time) on 18 March 1988, as follows:

Time	*Place*	*Projectiles*	*Casualties and damage*
0015 to 1505	Capital of Basra governorate, including Al-Ma'qil, Al-Dakir, Tariq, quarter Al-Asma'i, Al-Jumhuriyah, Old Basra, Al-Aliyah, Al-Hakimiyah, Qurnah district	125	9 citizens killed, including 1 woman and 1 child, and 30 wounded, including 5 women and 5 children; destruction of 2 houses; damage to 22 other houses, 8 vehicles and 2 schools
0548 to 0550	Nineveh governorate, including the following areas: Wadi al-Ayn in New Mosul, Shaykhan district	Raid by 1 warplane	6 citizens killed, including 3 children and 2 women, and 39 wounded, including 3 children and 11 women; destruction of 7 houses and damage to 67 others; destruction of 5 vehicles and damage to 17 civilian vehicles and 1 school
0600 to 1200	Diyala governorate: Khanaqin district	64	2 women wounded; 2 houses destroyed; damage to 7 other houses
1115 to 1315	Wasit governorate: Badrah district	46	—

I request you to have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ismat KITTANI
Permanent Representative of Iraq
to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19655

Letter dated 19 March 1988 from the representative of Iraq to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Arabic*]
[*21 March 1988*]

Further to the letter from the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq dated 13 March 1988, I have the honour to draw your attention to the sermon delivered by the head of the Iranian régime, Ali Khamenei, on the afternoon of Friday, 18 March. I quote below some passages from it in which he boasts of the occupation of Iraqi territory and towns by the forces of his régime and which clearly confirms Tehran's insistence on continuing the war and the expansionist aggression against Iraq and on rejecting Security Council resolution 598 (1987).

With regard to Iraqi territory invaded by Iranian forces following the intensive bombardment of which I informed you in my above-mentioned letter, Khamenei said:

"This area is an important Iraqi frontier area, and this area, namely, the area of Shahrizur, the Zur plain and the towns located therein, are among the areas whose inhabitants have, in the past, and throughout history been opposed to the Iraqi régime and to this ungodly Aflaqi Baathist régime because of the religious and ideological past of this area. This area covers approximately 1,000 square kilometres and is fertile and suitable for agriculture. It has wooded areas and contains a large number of villages—approximately 300—and a number of towns. Control of these towns has been achieved (praise be to God) in these four stages of these operations, the most recent being the one that took place this morning, when we announced that all the towns and villages of this area had fallen under the control of the warriors of Islam. The operations in this area have achieved their prescribed goals in full—nay, they have achieved even more than what was prescribed. The area of Halabja is regarded as a religious area, and, as I have said, the population of this area are Muslims and have been our brothers and our true allies for a long time. . . . This area is fertile from both the natural and the human viewpoints. It is a Muslim area, and Halabja is regarded, approximately speaking, as the centre of religious learning of our brothers the Kurds. It was inhabited formerly by many ulema, and that is still the case. Last year, we received a number of the major ulema of Halabja who had fled from the injustice and oppression of the Saddam régime and taken refuge in the Islamic Republic. They now live in our territory. It is, then, an important and extensive area, bounded on one side by Darbandikhan lake, which is a very big lake, and on the other by the lofty Surin mountain chain. Our forces have gained control over all this area and fortified their positions there, and all this area has been liberated (praise be to God) by the superiority of our warriors . . . [who] have entered the plain. And what a plain! A very extensive plain. . . . A plain is the best area for tank warfare. Our warriors crossed the heights, entered the plains and occupied some of the towns located on the slopes of these heights. They purged the plain completely and took control of four to five Iraqi towns. . . . My injunction to our dear warriors was to continue the operation and to aim the blows, as our beloved Imam said in his message. The enemy is weak and on the defensive, and our dear and valiant warriors must never allow the enemy to draw breath. The people must not leave the front. The young must continue pouring to the fronts. Our warriors must retain their readiness and their zeal. Information confirms that the number of volunteers has greatly increased over the previous figure, and this is proof of the zeal of our people. This zeal must continue, and the trained troops, particularly the forces of "Malik al-Ashtar" and leaders of divisions must prepare themselves and go to the fronts".

With regard to resolution 598 (1987) and the position of the international community calling for a peaceful and comprehensive solution to the conflict, Khamenei said:

"The sole point on which the dominant forces in the world agree, the United States of America, the major European Governments, the Soviet Union and their clients alike, and which they regard as a good point for the purpose of putting pressure on the Islamic Republic is this same imposed war. . . . They have felt that either this war must end with the defeat of the Islamic Republic or else, if it is not defeated in this war, they will endeavour to compel it to accept a humiliating peace, which, in fact, would constitute a *de facto* defeat—either a military defeat or a political defeat. From the start and up to the present, if you look at the course followed by the major Powers in the world, whether East or West, whether United States or European, they follow this course, namely, seeking to end the war either by a military defeat of the Islamic Republic or by its political defeat. . . . Last year, vigourous international political moves began in the Security Council, and the Council, in which the major Powers participate, was mobilized to put pressures on Iran. . . . Resolution 598 (1987), which was endorsed by the Security Council, is, in fact, a means of putting pressure on the Islamic Republic of Iran, although, of course, we were able, with God's help, to direct the course of action regarding resolution 598 (1987) in such a way as to make them suffer damage and loss and to make our enemy suffer damage and loss. . . . They did not intend to formulate the resolution in such a way that we could benefit from it. . . . They formulated the resolution so that it might be a tool for putting pressure on Iran. . . . Their analysis was that the Islamic Republic would inevitably fall. They thought that the Islamic Republic had no capacity for facing up to any action they might take against it, whether an arms embargo or resolution 598 (1987)".

These statements, which are clear in meaning and purpose, cast further light on many of the facts affirmed by Iraqi officials in their talks and correspondence with you and with the Security Council since the adoption of resolution 598 (1987) on 20 July 1987 up to the present, and particularly during recent events.

The head of the Iranian régime admits that he regards resolution 598 (1987) as an "act of pressure" on Iran and that he has succeeded in surmounting this "pressure". Thus we see confirmed what we said to you and to the members of the Security Council concerning the Iranian manoeuvres and attempts to mislead that Iran undertook in order to avoid the implementation of resolution 598 (1987) and to divert it from its basic intent as a binding and comprehensive resolution aimed at establishing a comprehensive and just peace, a peace that the head of the Iranian régime considers equivalent to a "defeat". The boasts by the head of the Iranian régime about Iraqi towns, villages and territory occupied by Iranian forces in recent days, after all the feigned outcry raised by this régime about the so-called war

of the cities confirm what we have said about the expansionist nature of this régime and its ambitions regarding Iraqi territory, even after the adoption of Security Council resolution 598 (1987). They also confirm what we warned of in the letter addressed to you by the Minister for Foreign Affairs on 16 March 1988 [*S/19631*], when he said that the bombardment of Halabja was but an attempt to prepare for fresh aggression. The aggression has actually occurred, and Iranian forces have occupied this Iraqi town under cover of the spurious outcry about the war of the cities.

These statements fully confirm the error of which we warned and into which the Security Council fell when it proceeded to deal with Iranian manoeuvres and with the particulars of the situation at the expense of the basic issue, the issue of acceptance of resolution 598 (1987) and action to implement it. After these proofs emanating from the head of the Iranian régime himself, we have no course open to us but to place upon the parties that urged the Council to follow that erroneous course the full responsibility for what has happened and for the new occupation of more Iraqi territory.

The time has come for the Security Council, after eight months of hesitation and procrastination, to face up to the facts as they are and to act in accordance with its legal and moral responsibilities and for those who seek for narrow advantages to desist from their course, which helps, directly or indirectly, to encourage the aggressive Iranian régime to prolong the duration of the war and to carry out more slaughter, destruction and territorial occupation.

I request you to have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ismat KITTANI
Permanent Representative of Iraq
to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19656*

Letter dated 18 March 1988 from the representative of Panama to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Spanish*]
[*21 March 1988*]

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of the communiqué issued today by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Panama, which condemns the action taken by the United States Government in sending troops to the Central American region.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex distributed as a document of the forty-second session of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Jorge Eduardo RITTER
Permanent Representative of Panama
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Communiqué dated 18 March 1988 issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Panama

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, on behalf of the Government of the Republic of Panama, founded on the principles and rules of international law, condemns the action taken by the United States Government in sending military troops to the Central American region, thereby once again seriously threatening the peace which peoples crave and gravely undermining the security of all the Latin American countries.

Because of its aggressive nature and because it is taking place at a time of border tensions between Honduras and Nicaragua, the stationing of 3,200 soldiers on Central American territory is a clear-cut case of interference in the affairs of the peoples of Central America by the Reagan Administration, whose politics of force violate international law and the rules of peaceful co-existence.

The threat or use of force in Central America is totally at variance with the courageous efforts which the Contadora Group and the Support Group have been making to promote a peaceful, negotiated settlement of the conflicts and tensions affecting that region.

Since a process of political reconciliation is under way as a result of the signing of the Esquipulas II agreement [*S/19085, annex*], the attitude taken by the United States Government is in conflict with the unrelenting determination of the Central American Governments to strengthen the commitments entered into in order to establish a firm and lasting peace in Central America.

This action is particularly serious also because it is taking place at a time when the United States is waging brutal economic aggression against Panama and conducting military manoeuvres unilaterally and in total violation of the Torrijos-Carter Treaties,[15] in an attempt to intimidate the Government and people of Panama.

* Circulated under the double symbol A/42/933-S/19656.

DOCUMENT S/19657

Letter dated 21 March 1988 from the representative of Iraq to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Arabic*]
[*21 March 1988*]

On instructions from my Government and further to our repeated letters concerning the Iranian régime's continuing bombardment of purely residential neighbourhoods in Iraq, I have the honour to inform you that, on 17, 18, 19 and 20 March 1988, the forces of this régime carried out the acts of aggression set forth in the annex to this letter.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ismat KITTANI
Permanent Representative of Iraq
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Iranian bombardment

Time	*Place*	*Projectiles*	*Casualties and damage*
0750 to 1555	Centre of Basra city, including the following areas: Al-Ma'qil, Al-Andulus, Al-Ashshar, Al-Dakir, Kuwait Street, Al-Jam'iz, Al-Hakimiyah, Al-Sa'i, As'ash, Al-Jamilah, Al-Ribat, Qarnah district, Zubayr district	136	2 citizens killed and 12 wounded, including 3 women and 1 child; damage to 14 houses, 1 market, 2 primary schools, 8 stores and 5 civilian vehicles
0741 to 0753	Arbil governorate: Koi Sanjaq district	Raid by 2 warplanes	18 citizens wounded
0640 to 1455	Capital of Sulaymaniyah governorate and Qala Diza district	28	1 citizen wounded; damage to 13 houses
0700 to 1400	Darbandikhan district	51	—
1200 to 1400	Sulaymaniyah governorate: Ishid sub-district, Baroka residential complex and Nasr residential complex	6	1 citizen killed and 7 wounded, including 2 children and 3 women
1045 to 1050	Dohuk governorate: Amadiyah district	Raid by 2 warplanes, which fired 2 missiles	—
1600 to 1650	Diyala governorate: Khanaqin district	26	Damage to 5 houses and 7 stores
0754 to 1135	Wasit governorate: Badrah town	54	—
0145 to 0445	Capital of Maysan governorate and Al-Majar district	50	Damage to 9 houses
1950 to 2005	Wasit governorate: Badrah district	15	—
1700 to 1755	Capital of Basra governorate, including the following areas: Al-Ashshar, Al-Sa'udiyah, Al-Jumhuriyah, Al-Zabir quarter, Mizawi Basha, Al-Hakimiyah, Al-Ma'qil, Al-Dakir, Al-Tuwayyah, Al-Sa'i	69, including 20 launcher missiles	12 citizens wounded, including 3 women and 5 children; damage to 2 schools, 4 houses and 5 stores
1200 to 2130	Diyala governorate: Khanaqin district	16	Damage to 3 houses
0555 to 1655	Wasit governorate: Badrah district	33	—
1320 to 1726	Maysan governorate: Ali al-Gharbi district	49	—
0350 to 0550	Capital of Maysan governorate	11	1 citizen wounded; damage to 3 houses
1700 to 1900	Sulaymaniyah governorate: Qala Diza district	21	4 citizens wounded, including 1 child and 1 woman
0725 to 1548	Capital of Basra governorate, including the following areas: Al-Sa'udiyah, Al-Dakir, Al-Ma'qil, Al-Ashshar, Al-Jumayzah, Al-Najibiyah, A.-Shuhada quarter, Al-Abadlah, A-Jam'iyat quarter	147	6 citizens killed, including 2 children and 36 wounded, including 4 children and 7 women; damage to 20 houses, 1 house set on fire and damage to 9 civilian vehicles
0655 to 1700	Sulaymaniyah governorate: outskirts of the town, Qala Diza district, Barika residential complex	25	10 citizens killed, including 1 child and 1 woman, and 19 wounded, including 5 children and 3 women; damage to 2 houses
0830 to 0940	Wasit governorate: Badrah district	34	Damage to 1 house and 1 store
0900	Maysan governorate: Ali al-Gharbi district, Majar al-Kabir district, village of Zubaydir and Wannah	15	—
1700 to 0055	Basra governorate: city centre, Al-Hartthah sub-district, Zubayr district	35	1 citizen killed and 18 wounded, including 7 women and 6 children; damage to 6 houses and 12 civilian vehicles
2130 to 1900	Diyala governorate: Khanaqin district	28	Damage to 8 houses, 6 stores and 1 civilian vehicle

DOCUMENT S/19658

Note by the President of the Security Council

[Original: English]
[21 March 1988]

The attached letter dated 21 March 1988 from Mr. Pak Gil Yon, Permanent Observer of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations, was addressed to the President of the Security Council. In accordance with the request therein contained, the letter is being circulated as a document of the Security Council.

ANNEX

Letter dated 21 March 1988 from the observer of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to forward to you the text of the communiqué of 21 March 1988 of the Supreme Command of the Korean People's Army.

I request that this letter, together with the enclosed communiqué, be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

ENCLOSURE

Communiqué issued by the Supreme Command of the Korean People's Army on 21 March 1988

The U.S. imperialists and the south Korean military fascist clique launched the provocative "Team Spirit 88" joint war exercises throughout south Korea from February last defying the unanimous protest and denunciation by the entire Korean people and the world's peaceloving people.

Involved in this aggressive war rehearsal are the U.S. imperialist aggression forces and the south Korean puppet army over 200,000 strong and all types of sophisticated operational equipment and nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction.

The units of all arms and services of the U.S. imperialist aggression army that had left the U.S. mainland and its military bases in the Asian-Pacific region such as Guam Island, Hawaii, Japan and the Philippines are now moving towards areas near the Demarcation Line, the areas south of it, and actions of the U.S. imperialist aggression troops occupying south Korea and the south Korean puppet army have become brisk.

And AWACS E-3A, B-52 strategic bombers, and F-16 and F-15 fighter bombers carrying nuclear weapons and planes of other types and a carrier flotilla with many escort and support ships and warships carrying nuclear weapons of the U.S. imperialist aggression forces are heading for the coastal waters off Korea. This has created an extremely grave situation on the Korean peninsula where an all-out war may break out any moment.

The "Team Spirit 88" joint military manoeuvres now being staged by the U.S. imperialists and the south Korean military fascist clique is a madcap offensive operation exercise and a very dangerous nuclear war exercise aimed at mounting a forestalling attack on our Republic.

Today the international situation as a whole shows a sign of gradual relaxation, and the voice of the world's peaceloving people calling for the peaceful settlement of the Korean question is growing stronger as days go by.

In recent years alone, our Party and the Government of our Republic put forward the proposal for the north-south high-level political and military talks, the proposal to convert the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free peace zone, the proposal for phased arms reduction, the five-point proposal for national unity, etc. one after another in conformity with the expectation and desire of the entire Korean people and the world's peaceloving people, and they have striven hard for their materialization.

In particular, in order to make this year a historical year of a new turning-point in the national reconciliation and unity between the north and the south, we put forward the proposal for the convocation of a north-south joint conference aimed at discussing and settling some immediate questions including the problem of stopping large-scale military exercises.

Precisely at this time the U.S. imperialists and the south Korean military fascist clique faked the missing jetliner incident and have since led the situation on the Korean peninsula to an extreme pitch of strain, conducting a wholesale anti-DPRK smear campaign and stepping up arms build-up under the smokescreen of the "guarantee of security of Seoul Olympics" and, furthermore, staging the criminal "Team Spirit 88" joint military rehearsal.

This is not only a downright challenge to our Republic and the entire Korean people, but also a grave threat to peace in Asia and the rest of the world. Pursuing an aggressive Asian strategy, the U.S. imperialists have long made haste with the formation of the U.S.-Japan-south Korea triangular military alliance, increased military bases in and around south Korea and massively introduced nuclear weapons and various types of modern war means into it, thus converting it into a most dangerous war arsenal and nuclear forward base.

They annually escalated the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises. As a result, this rehearsal has been turned into a test nuclear war game, very dangerous and adventurous.

This year, too, the U.S. imperialists and the south Korean puppet clique started the "Team Spirit 88" joint military manoeuvres against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. This is a sinister provocative move to lead the tense situation on the Korean peninsula to the brink of war and impose the holocaust of a thermonuclear war upon Asia and the world.

The Supreme Commander of the Korean People's Army, in view of the very dangerous situation in our country where the dark cloud of another war, a nuclear war, is gathering owing to the reckless military provocation moves of the U.S. imperialists and the south Korean puppet clique, ordered all the units of the three services of the Korean People's Army and the Korean People's Security Forces and all members of the Worker-Peasant Red Guard and Red Young Guard to maintain a high degree of revolutionary vigilance and keep themselves in full combat readiness.

One hundred fifty thousand officers and men of the Korean People's Army and the Korean People's Security Forces now engaged in the socialist economic construction are also ordered to keep themselves fully ready promptly to go into action any moment. This is a self-defence measure to cope with the new war provocation moves of the U.S. imperialists and the south Korean military fascist clique.

Our people love peace. They never want war. We have consistently made all efforts to peacefully solve the issue of national reunification by means of dialogue and negotiation, not by confrontation and war. However, we will never allow the imperialists and their stooges to threaten and provoke us as they please.

If the U.S. imperialists and the south Korean puppet clique dare to force a war on our people, they will rise as one man in the struggle to defend their inviolable territory, their people's power and socialist system and retaliate against them a hundred, a thousand times.

All the units of the Korean People's Army and the Korean People's Security Forces, members of the Worker-Peasant Red Guard and the Red Young Guard and the entire people will closely follow every move of the U.S. imperialists and south Korean puppet clique with the heightened revolutionary vigilance and maintain full combat readiness to smash thoroughly any war provocation move of the enemy in time, always keeping themselves in a tense and mobilized posture, and thus firmly defend our land, sea and air like an iron wall.

DOCUMENT S/19659*

Letter dated 21 March 1988 from the representative of Romania to the Secretary-General

[Original: English/French]
[21 March 1988]

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the texts of letters of protest by mass organizations of Romania against the sentencing to death of six South African young people, the Sharpeville Six.

It would be highly appreciated if the present letter and its annexes were circulated as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Petre TANASIE
Permanent Representative of Romania to the United Nations

ANNEX I

Letter of protest addressed by the General Union of Trade Unions of Romania to the Secretary-General

Along with the entire Romanian people, the trade unions of Romania have learned with deep indignation about the new arbitrary act of the Pretoria authorities, namely the sentencing to death of six young black people, and vigorously protest this decision, which is a flagrant encroachment upon the most elementary human rights.

The General Union of Trade Unions of Romania, a member of the most representative, democratic and largest forum of the country, the Socialist Front for Unity and Democracy, and on behalf of its millions of members, condemns in most resolute manner the abhorrent sentence passed by the Pretoria régime and firmly addresses an appeal to the United Nations to intervene urgently with all its authority in order to save the lives of the sentenced young people.

We firmly demand the halting of the racist repressions perpetrated by the Pretoria authorities, the abolition of its profoundly inhumane policies and its practices of racial discrimination and *apartheid*, in keeping with the Charter of the United Nations and relevant resolutions of the Security Council, and the establishment in the Republic of South Africa of a democratic society based on social equality and justice.

ANNEX II

Letter of protest addressed by the Union of Communist Students Associations of Romania to the Secretary-General

Along with the entire public opinion of Romania, the Union of Communist Students Associations and the young university generation have learned with deep indignation of the death sentences passed on the six young black South Africans from Sharpeville.

Condemning firmly the repressive measures of the Pretoria régime and its brutal rejection of the most elementary human rights, we are demanding the immediate cessation of the odious policy of racial discrimination and *apartheid*, and of the cruel persecution against the black majority population of South Africa.

Expressing our solidarity with the just struggle of the people, youth and students of South Africa against the policy of *apartheid*, we appeal to the United Nations to act forthwith in order to call off the death sentences on the six black young people and to secure their immediate release, as well as that of all political detainees in South Africa, the cessation of massacres, the assurance of full participation of all South African citizens in political and social life, and the fulfilment of the aspirations for freedom and justice of the South African people.

ANNEX III

Letter of protest addressed by the Organization of Women of Romania to the Secretary-General

Along with our entire people, the women's organizations of the Socialist Republic of Romania, a component of the Socialist Front for Unity and Democracy, have learned with deep indignation about the decision of the racist authorities of Pretoria to sentence to death the six young black people from Sharpeville, militants of the anti-*apartheid* movement in the Republic of South Africa.

On behalf of the mothers and of all women of Romania, who value life above all, we firmly raise our voice in protest against the abhorrent decision of the South African racist authorities. We express our full solidarity with the just struggle of the majority population, of women and of all South African mothers against the *apartheid* régime. We strongly support their courageous actions aimed at defending the legitimate right to a respectable and free life.

We address to the United Nations an appeal that it intervene urgently, with all its authority, to prevent the perpetration of a new crime, to save the lives of the six innocent young people and to release them forthwith.

ANNEX IV

Declaration by the Romanian League of Friendship with the Peoples of Asia and Africa

Along with world public opinion, we have learned with deep indignation about the new repressive action of the Pretoria racist authorities, which have sentenced to death six young black people from the South African city of Sharpeville. The total lack of legal grounds for such a decision attests to the fact that in reality it is a matter of premeditated intimidation and bloody repression of the anti-*apartheid* movement in South Africa.

Any human being of good faith cannot stand idly by over this act of gross violation of human rights and fundamental freedoms. We resolutely condemn the unjust and illegal sentence passed on those six young people who are fighting for the goals of freedom, equality of rights and progress. We demand unflinchingly that the South African authorities call off this unjust and arbitrary decision, an act that would fully comply with the generally recognized norms of law and the regulations and international treaties presently in force concerning the observance and protection of fundamental human rights and political and civil freedoms.

We join the position of various Governments, political parties and organizations and personalities of world-wide reputation who speak in favour of saving the lives of those sentenced young people. We reaffirm again on this occasion our deep sympathy and full solidarity with the struggle and actions of the overwhelming majority of the population from South Africa, for the abolition of *apartheid* and the attainment of democratic change in the social and political life of that country.

ANNEX V

Letter of protest addressed by the Union of Communist Youth of Romania to the Secretary-General

Having learned with deep indignation and revulsion of the South African authorities' decision to condemn six young black people from Sharpeville to death, the youth of Romania categorically demand the repeal of this unjust death sentence, which represents a flagrant violation of human rights and fundamental freedoms and of the primordial right of individuals and peoples freely to determine their destinies.

On behalf of the millions of young people in Romania we appeal to the United Nations to intervene swiftly in accordance with its Charter and the resolutions of the Security Council, to save the lives and secure the release of the young militants and to procure the freedom of all those campaigners against *apartheid* who are at present inside the prisons of the Pretoria régime.

The Union of Communist Youth and all young people in Romania reaffirm their active, militant solidarity with the national anti-*apartheid* movement in South Africa and protest energetically and strenuously against the inhumane, racist and discriminatory actions of the South African authorities.

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/227-S/19659.

DOCUMENT S/19660*

Letter dated 21 March 1988 from the representative of Nicaragua to the Secretary-General

[Original: Spanish]
[21 March 1988]

I have the honour to transmit to you the note dated 19 March 1988 which Mr. Miguel d'Escoto Brockmann, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Nicaragua, sent to Mr. Carlos López Contreras, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Honduras.

I should be grateful if you would have this note distributed as an official document of the forty-second session of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Julio ICAZA GALLARD
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission
of Nicaragua to the United Nations

ANNEX

Note dated 19 March 1988 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Nicaragua to the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Honduras

I am compelled to write to you once again with reference to the following attacks.

Between 0400 and 0830 hours today, 19 March, two F-5 aircraft coming from Honduran territory overflew the sectors of Mukuwas, San Andrés de Bocay, Wanawas y Wayawas, situated approximately 12 kilometres inside Nicaraguan territory, and proceeded to drop bombs and fire gun shots there.

Later, between 1435 and 1445 hours, two F-5 aircraft overflew the sectors of Amaka and Bocay, situated 8 kilometres inside Nicaraguan territory, and dropped four bombs on Sandinist People's Army positions there. The aircraft later returned to their sanctuary in Honduran territory.

The Government of Nicaragua protests vigorously and formally this series of aggressions against Nicaraguan territory, to which must be added the reprehensible aerial bombings, attacks and incursions which I reported in the notes which I sent to you yesterday [*S/19661, annex*] and this morning [*S/19666, annex*].

These incidents make quite clear what President Azcona meant when he said yesterday at a press conference that "our most readily available resource is the air force and we shall use it again tomorrow if we continue to find that the Sandinists have not left our territory". What President Azcona was really doing was reporting, in advance, the bombing of Nicaraguan territory, for there has been no Sandinist "invasion" of Honduran soil. As a result, for his words to be fulfilled, what he must have meant—and what in fact happened—was that the target was our national territory.

These latest attacks show that the Republic of Nicaragua was justified in applying, in the common interests of both peoples, to the International Court of Justice for interim protective measures in the case brought by Nicaragua. The Government of Honduras must realize that only respect for international law can provide an effective framework for relations among neighbouring countries.

* Circulated under the double symbol A/42/934-S/19660.

DOCUMENT S/19661*

Letter dated 21 March 1988 from the representative of Nicaragua to the Secretary-General

[Original: Spanish]
[21 March 1988]

I have the honour to transmit to you the note which Mr. Miguel d'Escoto Brockmann, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Nicaragua, sent to Mr. Carlos López Contreras, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Honduras, on 18 March 1988.

I should be grateful if you would have this note distributed as an official document of the forty-second session of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Julio ICAZA GALLARD
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission
of Nicaragua to the United Nations

ANNEX

Note dated 18 March 1988 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Nicaragua to the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Honduras

It is with profound concern that I am writing to inform you of the following incidents.

At 1200 hours on 17 March 1988, two jet planes entered Nicaraguan airspace from Honduras and fired 5 rockets in the sector of Amaka, on the border between the two countries, at precisely the moment when Lt. Col. Javier Carrión, Deputy Chief of Staff of the Sandinist People's Army, was holding a press conference for 31 national and foreign journalists. This treacherous attack, which was widely covered by the journalists present at the scene of the incident, was totally unprovoked.

At 1640 hours on the same day, a jet plane also coming from Honduran airspace fired two air-to-ground rockets at the sector of San Andrés de Bocay in Nicaraguan territory bordering Honduras. The plane later re-entered Honduran airspace.

The Government of Nicaragua protests formally and vigorously these attacks on Nicaraguan territory, which show that the Government of Honduras is persisting in its refusal to conduct its relations with Nicaragua in accordance with international law and the treaties in force.

The incidents to which I have referred are not only extremely serious in themselves but are all the more dangerous in that they are taking place at a time when the United States Government, launching a massive campaign of false accusations against Nicaragua, has deployed 3,200 soldiers to southern Honduras in a move designed to set the stage for an interventionist adventure against Nicaragua.

The incidents to which I have referred, combined with the continued tolerance and support which the Goverament of Honduras has shown for the military and paramilitary activities being conducted from Honduran territory by the mercenary groups in the service of the United States Government, are more than adequate and unequivocal proof that Honduras has not only failed to comply with the Esquipulas II agreements [*S/19085, annex*], by supporting irregular groups and not preventing the use of its territory as a base for aggression against Nicaragua, but also appears not to have any intention of complying with them in the future.

The Government of Nicaragua once again calls on the Government of Honduras to heed the legitimate interests of the Honduran people and allow access to the United Nations/Organization of American States technical mission so that it can conduct an on-the-spot investigation and propose the necessary procedures for disarming and relocating the mercenary groups currently stationed on the border between Honduras and Nicaragua.

* Circulated under the double symbol A/42/935-S/19661.

DOCUMENT S/19662*

Letter dated 21 March 1988 from the representative of Viet Nam to the Secretary-General

[Original: English]
[21 March 1988]

Upon instructions from my Government and further to my previous letters, I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a note sent on 17 March 1988 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its enclosure circulated as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) NGUYEN BINH THANH
Acting Permanent Representative of Viet Nam
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Note dated 17 March 1988 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Viet Nam to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China and wishes to convey the following.

True to its constant policy of granting precedence to the fundamental interests of both peoples, the Government of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam has continuously worked for the normalization of relations between the two countries and the restoration of the traditional friendship between the people of Viet Nam and that of China and will henceforth continue to persevere along this line.

It is regrettable that, while it still has to respond to Viet Nam's good will, the Chinese side has recently dispatched its navy to occupy the two reefs of Chu Thap and Chau Vien and a number of other reefs within the Vietnamese archipelago of Truong Sa and has attacked unarmed Vietnamese freighters in the proximity of Sinh Ton Island of this same archipelago. The aforesaid actions by the Chinese side not only fail to contribute to the settlement of differences but even aggravate the tension in the relations between the two countries, cause deep concern among South-East Asian countries and run counter to the growing trend of dialogue in the region.

Adhering to the principle of the non-use of force in the settlement of disputes between States, the Vietnamese side unswervingly advocates talks to solve disputes between the two countries concerning the Truong Sa Archipelago as well as their common border and the Hoang Sa Archipelago. The Vietnamese side is interested in the view expressed on 24 September 1975 by former Vice-Premier Deng Xiao Ping during the talks held with late General Secretary Le Duan in Beijing, according to which there exists a dispute between the two countries over the two archipelagos that can be discussed among them. In the years 1974, 1977 and 1978, the two countries in effect held talks regarding problems of borders on land and in the Tonkin Gulf, talks that have been temporarily suspended since March 1980 at the proposal of the Chinese side.

In the above-mentioned spirit, the Government of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam proposes that the Vietnamese and the Chinese Governments designate representatives for the holding of talks, the level, venue and date of which should be mutually agreed upon. Meanwhile the Vietnamese side proposes that both sides commit themselves not to use force to settle disputes.

It is hoped that, in the interest of the two peoples and for the sake of peace, stability and co-operation in South-East Asia, the Chinese side will react favourably to this constructive proposal on the part of Viet Nam. The Government of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam is convinced that the eventual holding of talks between Viet Nam and China in order to solve the problems already mentioned conforms to the interests and aspiration of the two peoples and will be widely welcomed by regional and world opinion.

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/229-S/19662.

DOCUMENT S/19663*

Letter dated 21 March 1988 from the representatives of Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela to the Secretary-General

[Original: Spanish]
[21 March 1988]

On instructions from our Governments, we have the honour to transmit to you the attached communiqué concerning the situation in Central America.

We should be grateful if this note and its annex could be distributed as a document of the forty-second session of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Marcelo E. R. DELPECH
Permanent Representative of Argentina
to the United Nations
(*Signed*) Paulo NOGUEIRA-BATISTA
Permanent Representative of Brazil
to the United Nations
(*Signed*) Enrique PEÑALOSA
Permanent Representative of Colombia
to the United Nations
(*Signed*) Mario MOYA-PALENCIA
Permanent Representative of Mexico
to the United Nations
(*Signed*) Jorge E. RITTER
Permanent Representative of Panama
to the United Nations
(*Signed*) Carlos ALZAMORA
Permanent Representative of Peru
to the United Nations
(*Signed*) Juan Enrique FISCHER
Alternate Representative of Uruguay
to the United Nations
(*Signed*) Andrés AGUILAR
Permanent Representative of Venezuela
to the United Nations

* Circulated under the double symbol A/42/936-S/19663.

ANNEX

Communiqué on the situation in Central America, issued on 18 March 1988 in New York

The countries members of the Contadora Group and the Support Group:

1. Express their profound concern at the escalation of the foreign military presence in the territory of the Republic of Honduras;

2. Reiterate the need for strict compliance with the fundamental principles of non-intervention, prohibition of the threat or use of force, and peaceful settlement of disputes;

3. Issue a fraternal and urgent appeal to the Governments of Honduras and Nicaragua to reduce the tension in their border area immediately and to guarantee respect for each other's territorial integrity and the non-use of their territories as a base for aggression against another State, in accordance with the commitments entered into under the Esquipulas II agreement [*S/19085, annex*];

4. Issue an appeal for the halting and immediate reversal of the escalation of the foreign military presence in the territory of the Republic of Honduras and in Central America, as well as for the termination of all aid to irregular forces and insurrectionist movements operating in the area. They likewise reiterate that dialogue and direct negotiation are the only lawful means for solving the region's problems;

5. Urge all parties involved to exercise the utmost restraint and refrain from any action which might aggravate the conflict and jeopardize the Central American peace process;

6. Urge the Secretary-General of the United Nations to arrange for the immediate dispatch of an observer mission and to contribute, by all means at his disposal, to the restoration of peace.

DOCUMENT S/19664

Letter dated 19 March 1988 from the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*21 March 1988*]

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to enclose herewith the text of the letter dated 19 March 1988 from Mr. Ali Akbar Velayati, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran addressed to you.

It will be highly appreciated if this letter was circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammad Ja'afar MAHALLATI
Acting Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations

LETTER DATED 19 MARCH 1988 FROM THE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

The Iraqi régime's use of chemical weapons against cities and civilians, which is a clear violation of the most basic norms of international law and particularly the 1925 Geneva Protocol,[19] has been repeatedly brought to the attention of the international community and in several instances has been documented by the United Nations expert missions.

It is regrettable that despite the clarity and ambiguity of the evidence presented and in spite of the conclusive reports of the United Nations expert missions, the Security Council has failed to take any effective measures to prevent further commission of this heinous war crime by the Iraqi rulers. This irresponsible and indifferent attitude of the Security Council has indeed encouraged and emboldened Iraq to employ chemical weapons even against innocent Iraqi civilians.

According to the available information, on March 18 1988, the Iraqi régime resorted to indiscriminate chemical bombardment of the liberated cities of Khormal and Halabja as well as their surrounding villages. As a result, more than 5,000 Iraqi Kurdish civilians have been martyred and more than 4,000 others have been seriously injured. Unfortunately, most of the victims are women and young children. In order to inform the international community of the magnitude of this barbarism and to register yet another example of Iraqi war crimes, further details of these inhuman attacks will be provided by the Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran in due course.

Are these latest manifestations of the barbaric and inhuman policies of the Iraqi régime—representing the most clear cases of war crimes—not sufficient for the United Nations and the Security Council to understand the real nature of the Iraqi régime?

What is the effect of these crimes on the one hand and the silence of the United Nations on the other? Have they not turned the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration on Human Rights[3] and other international instruments into empty and ineffective slogans?

Is it not an unprecedented phenomenon in the history of crimes against humanity that a régime resorts to chemical weapons against the same population which it claims to be protecting?

It is necessary to reiterate in most clear terms that these unprecedented crimes and the inaction and silence of the international forums have only strengthened the resolve of our great people to annihilate the roots of aggression and mischief. It is evident that the Iraqi régime and its supporters will have to bear complete responsibility for the consequences of its war crimes.

Ali Akbar VELAYATI
Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran

DOCUMENT S/19665

Letter dated 21 March 1988 from the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Secretary-General

[Original: English]
[21 March 1988]

Upon instructions from my Government, and pursuant to my previous letters, I have the honour to inform you that the Iraqi régime, in continuation of its criminal policy of resort to chemical weapons against civilians, used chemical weapons against three additional Iranian villages.

In the morning of 18 March 1988, the villages of Ghal'a, Marg-Sharani and Serah-e-Hezbollah, situated on Sanandaj-Marivan Highway, were chemically bombarded. As a result of this latest Iraqi war crime, at least 40 people were martyred and more than 100 others seriously injured. Several children were among the martyrs.

We hereby reiterate our urgent request for the dispatch of the United Nations team of experts on chemical weapons to the region to investigate the extent of Iraqi crime and to report to the international community.

It will be highly appreciated if this letter were circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammad Ja'afar MAHALLATI
Acting Permanent Representative
of the Islamic Republic of Iran
to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19666*

Letter dated 21 March 1988 from the representative of Nicaragua to the Secretary-General

[Original: Spanish]
[22 March 1988]

I have the honour to transmit to you the text of a note dated 19 March 1988 which Mr. Miguel d'Escoto Brockmann, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Nicaragua, sent to Mr. Carlos López Contreras, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Honduras.

I should be grateful if you would have this Communication distributed as an official document of the forty-second session of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Julio ICAZA GALLARD
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission of Nicaragua
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Note dated 19 March 1988 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Nicaragua to the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Honduras

I am writing to inform you of the following incidents.

At 2100 hours on 18 March 1988, a group of approximately 30 mercenaries entered Nicaraguan territory from Honduran territory via the sector of Valle de Torres, 5 kilometres north-east of Somotillo, on co-ordinates 4508. The group clashed with a unit of the Sandinist People's Army: one member of our army, José Dimas Rodríguez Ríos, was killed and soldiers Anastasio Sánchez Zamora, Javier Velásquez Poveda, Leónidas Adán Rivera Ramos and Osmán Sánchez Corrales were wounded. Among the terrorist group, two mercenaries were killed and a large assortment of military supplies were captured. The rest of the group fled towards Honduran territory, taking the El Coyol road on co-ordinates 4708. This infiltration was openly supported by the Honduran army, which fired rifle shots at the Sandinist People's Army border post located at Palo Grande Viejo, half a kilometre west of Somotillo on co-ordinates 35-98-4.

I must also inform you that on 15 March of this year, aircraft coming from Honduras violated Nicaraguan airspace on three occasions, returning to Honduran territory after their incursions. Similar violations of Nicaragua's airspace—4, 10 and 9 incursions respectively—occurred under similar circumstances on 16, 17 and 18 March, making a total of 26 violations of Nicaraguan sovereignty. I must emphasize that, on a number of occasions, these incursions were accompanied by attacks on our territory.

Faced with these repeated, unjustified and treacherous acts of aggression against the Republic of Nicaragua, I wish to lodge the strongest and most vigorous protest and to inform you that our representative to the International Court of Justice has been instructed to apply immediately to the Court for interim protective measures in the case concerning "border and transborder military actions" brought by the Republic of Nicaragua.

This decision is further proof that the Government of Nicaragua, faithful to its commitment always to seek peaceful solutions to situations which threaten international peace, is using the means of dispute settlement to which it is bound by the Charter of the United Nations and the Charter of Bogotá. Such action is motivated by our profound concern to see the establishment of a just and lasting peace in the region, a peace which your Government unjustifiably and irresponsibly insists on jeopardizing.

* Circulated under the double symbol A/42/937-S/19666.

DOCUMENT S/19667*

Letter dated 22 March 1988 from the representative of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*22 March 1988*]

Upon instructions from my Government and further to my previous letters concerning the situation along the Lao-Thai border in the area of Nabonoi commune, Botène district, Sayaboury province, I have the honour to inform you of the result of the negotiations between the Lao and Thai governmental delegations that were held at Vientiane on 17 and 18 March 1988.

1. As a continuation of the negotiations held at Bangkok on 3 and 4 March 1988, the negotiations at Vientiane were aimed at solving the border conflict in the area connecting Sayaboury province of the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Phitsanoulok province of Thailand.

2. The two delegations reaffirmed their mandate as well as the objectives of the negotiations as laid down in the joint press releases issued by the two Lao and Thai military delegations on 17 [*S/19520, annex*] and 24 February [*S/19539, annex*] 1988. They also reaffirmed the contents of the messages of 24 [*S/19545, annex*] and 26 February 1988 exchanged between the heads of Governments of both countries, which were aimed at solving the border conflict in the area following the principles of law and justice and in keeping with the 1907 Franco-Siamese treaty and the relevant maps.

3. In that spirit, the Lao side gave a clear explanation of its position on the Thai intention to establish a joint committee to resolve the border demarcation problem through survey, verification and demarcation:

(*a*) For its part, the Lao side had no objection whatsoever to the setting up of the aforesaid joint committee, but above all, the governmental delegations of both countries must agree upon the evidence and the basic principles on the basis of which the committee will discharge its mandate, for this committee, in the opinion of the Lao side, will not be able to act in the name of the governmental delegations of both countries;

(*b*) The Lao side is still of the view that the joint border committee at the national and local levels established in accordance with the provisions of the joint Lao-Thai communiqués of 1979 will not be able to assume effectively its function unless the border incidents between the two countries are definitely resolved on the basis of mutual respect for independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity and in conformity with international law and the Charter of the United Nations.

4. The two delegations have not yet been able to reach an agreement on some legal and administrative arguments considered to be fundamental for the solution of the conflict:

(*a*) The two delegations in their negotiations have not yet fulfilled their mandate, nor have they achieved the objectives laid down in the 17 and 24 February 1988 joint press releases issued by the military delegations of both countries;

(*b*) The delegation of the Lao People's Democratic Republic stands ready to pursue the negotiations either at Bangkok or at Vientiane in order to settle the problem peacefully.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter distributed as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Alounkeo KITTIKHOUN
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission
of the Lao People's Democratic Republic
to the United Nations

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/234-S/19667.

DOCUMENT S/19668*

Letter dated 22 March 1988 from the representative of Suriname to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*22 March 1988*]

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of the communiqué issued on 18 March 1988 by the Government of the Republic of Suriname regarding the decision by the régime in South Africa to stay for one month the execution of the Sharpeville Six.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Michel O. KERPENS
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission of Suriname
to the United Nations

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/232-S/19668.

ANNEX

Communiqué issued on 18 March 1988 by the Government of Suriname

The National Assembly of the Republic of Suriname on 18 March 1988 approved a resolution in which it requested the Government of Suriname to protest in the strongest terms the planned executions of the six young South Africans known as the Sharpeville Six and to do its utmost to prevent these executions.

As a result of this resolution the Government of Suriname has issued the following statement.

The Government of Suriname has learned with indignation and abhorrence of the decision of the *apartheid* régime in Pretoria to execute the Sharpeville Six, which execution has been stayed for one month, thanks to the relentless pressure of the international community and the brave fighters of the oppressed black community of South Africa.

The Government of Suriname, therefore, fully subscribes to the appeal of the international community, as expressed in Security Council resolution 610 (1988), to the Pretoria régime, to commute the death sentences against the Sharpeville Six, who have been sentenced by the Pretoria régime in contravention of every universally accepted principle of law and justice.

The Government of Suriname condemns the threatening execution of the Sharpeville Six as another example of the customary practice of the *apartheid* régime to frustrate the just struggle of the oppressed fraternal people of South Africa for liberation and recognition of their human dignity.

The Government of Suriname remains convinced that as the *apartheid* régime has through the years rejected all possibilities for dialogue in order to dismantle the monstrous *apartheid* system, it is the duty of the international community to impose effective, comprehensive and mandatory sanctions against the régime of South Africa.

DOCUMENT S/19669*

Letter dated 22 March 1988 from the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*22 March 1988*]

Upon instructions from my Government and pursuant to my previous letters concerning the unprecedented use of chemical weapons by the Iraqi régime, I have the honour to draw your attention to General Assembly resolution 42/37 C entitled "Measures to uphold the authority of the 1925 Geneva Protocol and to support the conclusion of a chemical weapons convention". In paragraph 4 of that resolution, the Assembly:

> "*Requests* the Secretary-General to carry out investigations in response to reports that may be brought to his attention by any Member State concerning the possible use of chemical and bacteriological (biological) or toxin weapons that may constitute a violation of the 1925 Geneva Protocol or other relevant rules of customary international law in order to ascertain the facts of the matter, and to report promptly the results of any such investigation to all Member States".

The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran has brought to your attention a very serious escalation in the use of chemical weapons by Iraq, primarily against civilian populations. It has officially requested the immediate dispatch of the United Nations team of experts on chemical weapons to the region to investigate the extent of Iraqi crime and to report to the international community. It is imperative that immediate action by you, in line with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 42/37 C, be adopted in order to "uphold the authority of the 1925 Geneva Protocol".

It would be highly appreciated if this letter were circulated as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammad Ja'afar MAHALLATI
Acting Permanent Representative
of the Islamic Republic of Iran
to the United Nations

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/233-S/19669.

DOCUMENT S/19670

Letter dated 22 March 1988 from the representative of Iraq to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Arabic*]
[*22 March 1988*]

On instructions from my Government and further to our repeated letters concerning the Iranian régime's continued bombardment of purely residential areas in Iraq, I have the honour to inform you that on 20 and 21 March 1988 the forces of that régime carried out the acts of aggression detailed in the attached annex.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex distributed as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ismat KITTANI
Permanent Representative of Iraq
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Iranian bombardment

Time	*Place*	*Projectiles*	*Casualties and damage*
0825 to 1640	Centre of Basra governorate, in particular the following districts: Al-Tuwaysah, Al-Sa'i, Al-Sa'udiyah, Al-Dakir, Old Basra, Al-Ashshar, Al-Abbasiyah, Al-Jaza'ir, Al-Hakimiyah, Al-Buriha, Manawi Basha, Nadhran, Zubayr district, Dayr village	130	1 child killed and 3 citizens, including 1 woman, wounded; 1 house burned; several other houses and commercial premises damaged
0645 to 1622	Wasit governorate: Ali Al-Gharbi district	64	—
1240 to 1300	Sulaymaniyah governorate: Qala Diza district	8	2 citizens killed and 2 others, including 1 woman, wounded
1800 to 2040	Centre of Basra governorate	4	—
1800 to 1830	Sulaymaniyah governorate: Arbit village, Al-Ukhuwa residential complex	—	1 citizen killed and 2 others, including 1 woman, wounded

DOCUMENT S/19671*

Letter dated 22 March 1988 from the representative of Bolivia to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Spanish*]
[*22 March 1988*]

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the note dated 22 March 1988 addressed to the President of the Security Council by the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Worship of Bolivia.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter distributed as an official document of the forty-second session of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Hugo NAVAJAS MOGRO
Permanent Representative of Bolivia to the United Nations

LETTER DATED 22 MARCH 1988 FROM THE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND WORSHIP OF BOLIVIA ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

The Government of Bolivia wishes to express its concern at the tension which has been created in the Central American region, and once again reiterates its support for the efforts being made by the Contadora Group and the Support Group to preserve peace in that region. It also appeals to Governments to abide by the commitments entered into under the Esquipulas II agreements [*S/19085, annex*].

Guillermo BEDREGAL GUTIERREZ
Minister for Foreign Affairs of Bolivia

* Circulated under the double symbol A/42/938-S/19671.

DOCUMENT S/19672*

Letter dated 22 March 1988 from the representative of Turkey to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*22 March 1988*]

I have the honour to attach herewith a letter dated 22 March 1988 addressed to you by Mr. Özer Koray, representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus.

I should be grateful if this letter and its annex were circulated as a document of the forty-second session of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ilter TÜRKMEN
Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations

ANNEX

Letter dated 22 March 1988 from Mr. Özer Koray to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to refer to the letter dated 10 February 1988 addressed to you by the Greek Cypriot Representative at the United Nations [*S/19506*] and to set the record straight with regard to the unfounded allegations contained in the said letter.

At the outset, I wish to make it abundantly clear that, as President Rauf Denktaş had also stated earlier, in his statement made on 13 February 1988, which was circulated in document S/19519 on 19 February 1988, the Greek Cypriot elections, which took place in the South in February last, were not, and could not have been, of any direct concern for the Turkish Cypriot people. It is a fact that there exist in Cyprus two distinct peoples

* Circulated under the double symbol A/42/940-S/19672.

and two separate, independent political entities each exercising sovereignty and jurisdiction over its own people and territory.

Therefore, the interest of the Turkish Cypriot people in the February elections on the Greek Cypriot side did not go beyond that which is required by good-neighbourliness and a sincere hope that the new Greek Cypriot leader emerging from these elections would adopt a more constructive and realistic posture towards a negotiatied solution of the Cyprus question. This is why we were shocked by the attempt of the Greek Cypriot side to establish a link between the elections in the South and administrative procedures in the North, although not totally surprised, in view of their habitual practice of inventing new topics in their campaign of malicious propaganda.

Applications for crossing to the South during this period were treated in the same manner as before, and there is no question of anyone having been prevented by our authorities from crossing to the South.

It is worth noting that the number of Greek Cypriots and Maronites who applied to cross, and in fact did cross, to the South during the two weeks corresponding to the first and second rounds of the Greek Cypriot elections, is 70. No applicant was refused leave to cross. I am sure that the United Nations Peace-keeping Force in Cyprus would confirm these facts and figures, if necessary.

It is thus clear that the true motive behind the Greek Cypriot side's false propaganda over this and other such matters is to extend their sovereignty over the North and ultimately impose their illegitimate rule over the Turkish Cypriot people. This attempt is not only incompatible with the existing realities and the bi-national, bi-zonal federal solution envisaged, but also with your efforts in that direction, within the framework of your mission of good offices.

I should be grateful if this letter were circulated as a document of the forty-second session of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

DOCUMENT S/19673*

Letter dated 22 March 1988 from the representative of Viet Nam to the Secretary-General

[Original: English]
[23 March 1988]

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of a statement issued on 17 March 1988 by the spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam on the latest developments in Central America.

I should be grateful if you could have the present letter and its annex distributed as an official document of the forty-second session of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) NGUYEN BINH THANH
Acting Permanent Representative of Viet Nam to the United Nations

ANNEX

Statement issued on 17 March 1988 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Viet Nam

Under the pretext of helping Honduras to check an attack by Nicaraguan armed forces, President Reagan of the United States on 17 March ordered the dispatch of over 3,000 United States troops to the area of Honduras bordering on Nicaragua. The same day, a number of United States-made F-5 jet fighters raided Nicaragua.

This move taken by the United States is seriously menacing the independence and sovereignty of Nicaragua and at the same time shows once again that the United States Government is still pursuing its policy of using force in the face of the growing trend of dialogue in the Central American and Caribbean region and the world at large, contrary to the aspirations for peace and national independence of all nations.

The Government of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam resolutely supports the fraternal Nicaraguan people in their national construction and defence, and the untiring efforts of the Government and people of Nicaragua in their search for a political solution to the conflict in that region. We demand that the United States put an immediate end to all its acts of intervention and aggression against Nicaragua, stop backing the contras and respect the desire and will for peace and the national independence and sovereignty of the Latin American peoples as expressed in the Guatemala peace plan [*S/19085, annex*].

* Circulated under the double symbol A/42/941-S/19673.

DOCUMENT S/19674*

Letter dated 22 March 1988 from the representative of Panama to the Secretary-General

[Original: Spanish]
[23 March 1988]

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith excerpts from the message to the nation issued by Mr. Manuel Solís Palma, Minister in Charge of the Presidency of the Republic of Panama, on 21 March 1988.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex distributed as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Jorge Eduardo RITTER
Permanent Representative of Panama to the United Nations

ANNEX

Message to the nation issued by the Minister in Charge of the Presidency of the Republic of Panama on 21 March 1988

In my capacity as head of State, I am addressing the country and the world with the authority and responsibility vested in me by the Constitution, the Supreme Court of Justice, the Legislative Assembly and the police, and by the people rallied for this decisive battle to defend the Panamanian nation.

I denounce to all the countries and peoples of the world the mockery which the Government of the United States of America is making of the most elementary principles and rules of international law by its aggression against the Republic of Panama, an aggression unparalleled in the history of mankind.

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/235-S/19674.

The Panamanian people and the peoples of Latin America and the world must realize the magnitude of the danger inherent in the strategy of domination which the United States Government is trying out against the people of a small country which has always offered it friendship, always contributed to the growth of its wealth and always helped augment its might.

Everybody must be told the truth.

No matter how great the control currently exerted by the United States Government over the media which generate and disseminate information in that country and in a large part of the world, no matter how great its capacity for manipulating world public opinion, at this terrible hour the Republic of Panama must rise up and tell the world that lies shall not prevail.

Panama's present situation is no sudden phenomenon; it did not happen overnight. It is not an action against one man, against a system; it is not a reaction against a change of leadership. It is the result of a carefully planned strategy of domination, calculated to be implemented systematically, gradually and unscrupulously over a long period of time, conducted with a merciless, vicious cruelty which will live on in the memory of many generations to come.

For years, they paved the way with slanders and lies for winning over peoples' minds by insinuation. For years, they steadily undermined the bastion of Panamanian nationalism by the most degrading sabotage of education and the shaping of awareness among young people. For years, they prepared the ground by obstructing the Panamanian Government's programmes for economic development and social progress, striking at the heart of the national economy, frightening away foreign capital and impeding the Government's efforts to comply with its international financial obligations.

Governments throughout the world know perfectly well how these things are done. Informed men and women everywhere know it too. Anyone who analyses and questions events, anyone who can distinguish between the reality he sees and the reality that is fabricated for him, anyone who questions and looks for the reasons, the purposes of the upheavals in history, knows it.

However, as head of State and as the person who can speak with the greatest authority in the Republic of Panama, I must now tell our truth, which is the truth and nothing but the truth.

The United States Government wants to prolong its military presence in Panamanian territory beyond the year 2000, in violation of the commitment entered into by President Jimmy Carter and General Omar Torrijos Herrera.

They claim to want a country free of drug traffickers, but that is not what they want. What they want is a country which will let them maintain a strategic military vanguard in the heart of the American continent. They claim to want a country where there is no money laundering, but that is not what they want. What they want is an impoverished, debased and subjugated country which never objects to the presence of an unlimited number of United States troops on its soil. They claim to want a country with a democratic Government, but that is not what they want. What they want is a country with a docile, submissive Government which never objects if they want to use those United States military installations and troops in Panamanian territory against other peoples.

The democracy which we Panamanians are building is based on the principles of neutrality of the Panama Canal, friendly relations with all nations, genuine equality among all our citizens—because without equality, freedom and all freedoms remain a dead letter in the school books—and, lastly, the institutions and life-style which the Panamanian people want and not those which another people or Government wants to impose on them.

It is this national will which has resulted in the present situation, and the Governments and peoples of the world must understand that Panama's loss will be everyone's loss. Not only the principle but also the future of the political independence of many other Latin American nations are at stake in the self-determination of the Panamanian people.

The drive for domination which we Panamanians are suffering today must be stopped short in Panama, because failure to act now will help to undermine respectful coexistence among nations and also peace, in this region and this continent at least.

If the United States Government thinks that it can bring us to our knees through its arrogant, arbitrary behaviour, let it now hear our firm and vigorous response. Ours is a people trained in nationalist struggle, accustomed to confrontations with the United States and prepared to resist and defend the Panamanian nation, no matter what it costs nor how long it takes.

The peoples of the world condemn the coercive, illegal and immoral measures which the United States Government has arbitrarily imposed on our small country. So that the annals of the history of America might record this wanton violation of the principles and rules of international law, this use of embargo and economic blockade and the threat of military force against Panama as means of pressure and oppression, let me list such measures here:

1. Obstruction of negotiations on the external debt service.
2. Blatant violation of the 1977 Panama Canal Treaty,[15] which establishes that payments must be made to the Republic of Panama and not according to the whims of spurious presidents or ambassadors. The United States has withheld the periodic payments due to us for use of the Canal, thereby increasing our budget deficit by an amount approaching 100 million balboas this year. They have even boasted about doing so, as if violating treaties in order to overthrow Governments was a new rule of international coexistence which other nations would gracefully accept.
3. The United States Government has reduced its quotas for Panamanian exports.
4. The United States Government has excluded Panama from its generalized system of tariff preferences and from the aid and co-operation mechanism of the Caribbean Basin Initiative.
5. Basing itself on recognition of a non-existent Government, the United States Government has ordered the withholding of funds deposited in that country by the National Bank of Panama, as well as the funds of all Panamanian consulates deposited in United States bank accounts. In so doing, it has triggered a serious currency crisis of a magnitude never before seen in our country, thereby obstructing production, currency movements and the normal transactions of the national economy. The arbitrary court orders freezing the funds of the Republic of Panama tarnish the independence of the United States judicial system, which is bowing to the dictates of the State Department and violating the international treaties and agreements in force which that country signed with the Republic of Panama and which its Congress ratified, thereby making them United States law.
6. It has also threatened to suspend or restrict oil shipments through the Petroterminales de Panama pipeline, in order to further aggravate Panama's fiscal situation by eliminating the revenues from taxes and dividends due to the Panamanian State as a shareholder in that corporation.
7. The United States Government has imposed direct bans on exports from its country to Panama and has called on other countries to also restrict their exports to Panama in order to create a serious shortage of strategic goods.
8. Also by means of court orders, it has barred Air Panama flights and prohibited vessels flying the Panamanian flag from docking in United States ports. It has even seized an aeroplane of the Panamanian national airline along with all its other assets in the United States.
9. In addition to such direct aggression, it has tried to augment the adverse effects on other important sectors of our economy, such as the international financial services and maritime shipping services which Panama provides to other countries of the world. To this must be added innumerable cases of harassment and humiliation of foreign service officials of the legitimately constituted Government of the Republic of Panama and countless assaults on our national dignity.

All these actions are clear and obvious manifestations of an undeclared war against the Republic of Panama, against the Panamanian people's desire for peace and the national will to defend the neutrality of the Panama Canal. The colossus is not moving against a man, or a Government, or an ideology. The prey it is pursuing is a national will which no longer coincides with its will, which does not agree with its current interpretation of security interests and political and economic domination. What the United States Government is trying to do is to bend the will of the Panamanian people—the will to defend the legacy of General Omar Torrijos Herrera and enter the twenty-first century as a nation which has finally achieved genuine sovereignty, independence and freedom and no longer has any foreign troops on its soil.

Nowhere does the 1977 Panama Canal Treaty authorize the United States of America to decide unilaterally to conduct military exercises outside the defence sites clearly established and precisely demarcated on the agreed maps. On the contrary, the Treaty establishes a bi-national body which must co-ordinate and plan such exercises once formal authorization has been given, at the highest level of the executive branch, by the Republic of Panama.

The 1977 Panama Canal Treaty, including all the annexes and maps, documents, exchanges of notes and amendments, understandings and reservations in the instruments of ratification, authorizes a United States military presence and military activities only for the specific purposes of protecting and defending the Canal, and such purposes can never include, in anyone's eyes, manoeuvres to intimidate the Panamanian Defence Forces or preparations for an invasion or occupation.

The Governments of countries with large armies and long military traditions will have no difficulty in grasping the significance of these exercises with lethal ammunition and destructive capacity, which are being held only kilometres from installations of the Panamanian Defence Forces and alongside villages where the cracked walls and broken windows of schools and churches bear witness to the aggressive extent of the operation.

The closing of banks and the paralysing of the financial centre, both provoked by the economic aggression of a foreign Government which is thus making a mockery of the confidence placed in it by Panamanians for 85 years, show us and the world just how vulnerable our monetary system and thus the national economy really are.

These bank closures, which are the result of the arbitrary, illegal seizure of dollars belonging not only to the national treasury but also to private depositors of different nationalities, have suddenly restricted the currency available in the country, with devastating effects for the economy of the Panamanian people who have thus been deprived of the means of exchange which enabled them to meet their essential everyday needs. This unheard-of action which, to the shame of the civilized world, marks the first use of the weapon of financial piracy in relations among nations, makes it clear that the workability of our monetary system must be studied carefully and responsibly in the context of the concepts of economic reality and national sovereignty. I believe firmly that this is so because the national Government has a duty to take the necessary steps to defend the country's free enterprise economic system and the institutions on which it is based, as well as the banking centre which is now temporarily in disarray because of foreign pressures and covert or overt political intrigues.

DOCUMENT S/19675

Note by the President of the Security Council

[Original: English]
[23 March 1988]

The attached letter dated 23 March 1988 from Mr. Pak Gil Yon, Permanent Observer of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations, was addressed to the President of the Security Council. In accordance with the request therein contained, the letter is being circulated as a document of the Security Council.

ANNEX

Letter dated 23 March 1988 from the observer of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to forward to you the text of the statement of 23 March 1988 of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

I request that this letter, together with the enclosed statement, be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

ENCLOSURE

Statement of 23 March 1988 of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

The "Team Spirit 88" joint military manoeuvres launched by the United States imperialists and the south Korean puppet clique throughout south Korea against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, defying the strong public denunciation at home and abroad, have entered into full-dress stage.

Involved in this provocative war rehearsal are large armed forces more than 200,000 strong including 60,000 United States imperialist aggression troops and E-3A AWACS, B-52 strategic bombers, F-16 and F-15 fighter bombers carrying nuclear weapons and many other planes and tanks, missiles and a carrier flotilla and various other types of sophisticated operational equipment and mass destruction weapons from the United States mainland and United States military bases on Guam, Hawaii, Japan and the Philippines.

During the several month-long war exercises the United States imperialists and the south Korean puppet clique will reportedly stage a big combined "landing operation", a "river crossing operation", an "airlifting operation", a "firing exercise", a "missile launching exercise", etc. and even a "special operation" against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. Due to these reckless war manoeuvres, the situation in Korea is now growing extremely tense and the dark cloud of a nuclear war is heavily hanging over our land.

The United States imperialists and the south Korean puppet clique are staging "Team Spirit 88" at a time when the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea put forward reasonable nation-saving proposals for easing tensions on the Korean peninsula and achieving peace and peaceful reunification. This clearly tells that they are bringing the situation on the Korean peninsula to the brink of war.

The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the entire Korean people vehemently denounce the "Team Spirit 88" joint military rehearsal of the United States imperialists and the south Korean puppet clique, deadset against peace in Korea and its peaceful reunification, as a heinous criminal act intended to impose a horrible nuclear disaster upon our people and as a grave menace to peace in Asia and the world.

"Team Spirit 88" is an out-and-out aggressive preliminary war and a test nuclear war, in view of the scale of the armed forces involved and the standard of their equipment, the duration of the exercises and their nature and timing. Vast armed forces of both sides are standing in acute confrontation along the Military Demarcation Line that divides the Korean peninsula today, and south Korea has turned into the largest nuclear arsenal in the Far East.

In this situation who on earth can assert that the reckless playing with fire by the United States imperialists and the south Korean puppets will not develop to be an all-out thermonuclear war? There is no way that they can cover up the aggressive nature of the "Team Spirit 88".

The Government of our Republic has stated more than once that it has no intention to "invade south".

The international situation as a whole shows a sign of gradual relaxation, and the voice of the world's peace-loving people who wish the peaceful settlement of the Korean question is growing louder with each passing day.

In keeping with the expectation and the desire of the entire Korean people and the world's peace-loving people, the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in recent years alone put forward one proposal after another for détente, including the proposal for discontinuing the arms build-up and arms race and reducing the armed forces of the north and the south each to 100,000 men or less, the proposal for concluding a peace agreement between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the United States and adopting a non-aggression declaration between the north and the south, the proposal for converting the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free peace zone and the proposal for discontinuing large-scale military exercises. It advanced the proposal for a drastic phased arms reduction in July 1987 [*see S/19017, annex*], and, in particular, it made efforts in every way for its realization and unilaterally cut its armed forces by 100,000 men.

This year our Republic, with a view to easing the tension on the Korean peninsula and bringing about a new turning-point in national reconciliation and unity, put forward the epoch-making proposal for convening a north-south joint conference aimed at discussing and settling such urgent matters as discontinuing the "Team Spirit" and other large-scale military exercises and holding multinational disarmament talks.

These proposals of ours have met with the broad support and sympathy of the entire Korean people and the world public for their validity and reasonableness, but the United States imperialists and the south Korean puppet clique turned down all our fair and above-board proposals and answered them with premeditated aggravation of the tension from the beginning of the year and with the "Team Spirit 88" joint military manoeuvres.

Moreover, the United States imperialists are massing a huge amount of weapons and military hardware including aircraft carriers in south Korea and its surrounding waters and will reportedly replace the old military hardware with the ammunition and war supplies they have introduced for the current military exercises or transfer them to the south Korean puppets under the pretext of "ensuring the security of the Olympic Games".

The "threat from the north" and "security of the Olympic Games" advertised by the United States imperialists and the south Korean puppets are nothing but a trick to justify their arms build-up and nuclear war moves, divert people's attention from the anti-American, anti-fascist struggle for democracy mounting high in south Korea and find a pretext for the provocation of another war of aggression against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

It is by no means fortuitous that the south Korean students and other people are energetically waging the anti-American, anti-"Government" struggle to gain democracy and national sovereignty.

The United States imperialists and the south Korean military fascist clique must look straight at the trend of the times and act with discretion. If they think they can find a way out of the serious crisis of the totering colonial military fascist ruling system in the aggravation of the tension and the provocation of another war of aggression, it is a gross miscalculation.

The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Korean people will never pardon the reckless war provocation moves of the United States imperialist aggressors and the south Korean puppet clique.

Having received the order of the Supreme Commander of the Korean People's Army, the officers and men of our People's Army and People's Security Forces and the members of the Worker-Peasant Red Guard and the Red Young Guard are keenly watching every movement of the United States imperialists and the south Korean puppet clique. Should the enemy dare to attack them, they would retaliate against him a hundred, a thousand times.

Our people oppose war and love peace but will never beg for it.

Clearly mindful that with no move can they ever dampen the unanimous desire and aspiration of our people who are all out in the just cause, the United States imperialists must immediately stop the "Team Spirit 88" joint military exercises they are staging under an untenable pretext and withdraw from south Korea at an early date, taking along nuclear weapons and all other lethal weapons. The south Korean military fascist clique should halt the treacherous act aimed at imposing a nuclear holocaust upon fellow countrymen, clinging to the coat-tail of their master. If the United States imperialists and the south Korean puppet clique continue military exercises and arms build-up in defiance of our earnest assertion, that will only betray the fact that they are increasing the danger of war on the Korean peninsula with an axe to grind.

The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the entire Korean people express the firm belief that all the peace-loving Governments and peoples of the world will approach with high vigilance the vicious moves of the United States imperialists and the south Korean puppet clique to abuse the sacred Olympic Games for their "two Koreas" plot and war policy and the criminal "Team Spirit 88" joint military exercises and lift up voices of justice denouncing them.

The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Korean people will check and frustrate the moves of the United States imperialists and south Korean puppets to provoke another war on the Korean peninsula and firmly defend peace in Asia and the world and make patient efforts to achieve the peace in Korea and its peaceful reunification.

DOCUMENT S/19677*

Letter dated 23 March 1988 from the representative of Honduras to the Secretary-General

[Original: Spanish]
[24 March 1988]

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the message sent to the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the countries members of the Contadora Group and the Support Group by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Honduras, Mr. Carlos López Contreras.

I should be grateful if you would have this note and its annex distributed as a document of the forty-second session of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Jorge Ramón HERNANDEZ ALCERRO
Permanent Representative of Honduras to the United Nations

ANNEX

Message dated 21 March 1988 sent to the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the countries members of the Contadora Group and the Support Group by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Honduras

It was with surprise that I learned of the draft declaration which the Contadora Group and the Support Group will be submitting to the meeting of the United Nations Security Council scheduled for tomorrow. The aforesaid draft does not acknowledge the situation which has arisen in the border area between Honduras and Nicaragua, for it neither refers to nor condemns the act of aggression perpetrated against Honduras by the Sandinist People's Army.

It is ironic that increasing concern should be expressed about the presence of United States troops in Honduras, when such troops were sent in response to my Government's request, on a purely temporary basis and as a deterrent, while the aforesaid declaration remains completely silent about the violation of the territorial integrity and national sovereignty of Honduras by the Sandinist People's Army. It is also ironic that there should be such an interest in denouncing the presence of foreign troops in Honduras, while nothing is said about the 6,000 military advisers from the Soviet bloc which the Government of Nicaragua has on its territory.

The aforesaid draft declaration departs from the balance and impartiality which must characterize the actions of countries members of the Contadora Group and the Support Group, for it promotes the unilateral interests of Nicaragua when that country is seeking to internationalize a conflict caused by the profound divisions within its own society and the absence of a firm political determination to bring about domestic reconciliation as provided for in the Guatemala procedure [*S/19085, annex*].

Honduras regrets the Nicaraguan Government's persistence in undermining the process for settling its internal conflict peacefully and also expresses its profound concern at the fact that the Sandinist Government has rejected the mediation of the Catholic Church, in the person of Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo, and has failed to pursue the dialogue aimed at reaching a cease-fire agreement that would promote national reconciliation and democratization.

Such reconciliation would have made it unnecessary to take up arms as an alternative to solving Nicaragua's internal political problems.

Honduras believes that this resurgence of the use of international violence by the Nicaraguan Government occurred when the last pretext for not complying with the Guatemala procedure disappeared, leaving the establishment of social peace and the maintenance of regional peace in that Government's hands.

I trust that you will take due account of the views expressed above.

* Circulated under the double symbol A/42/942-S/19677.

DOCUMENT S/19678*

Letter dated 23 March 1988 from the representative of Honduras to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Spanish*]
[*24 March 1988*]

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you a copy of the communication dated 23 March 1988 which was sent to Mr. Miguel D'Escoto Brockmann, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Nicaragua, by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Honduras, Mr. Carlos López Contreras.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the forty-second session of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Jorge Ramón HERNANDEZ ALCERRO
Permanent Representative of Honduras
to the United Nations

* Circulated under the double symbol A/42/943-S/19678.

ANNEX

Communication dated 23 March 1988 to the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Nicaragua from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Honduras

I am writing to you in order to inform the Government of Nicaragua about the incidents to which I refer below and to register the most vigorous protest on the part of the Government of Honduras.

Yesterday, 22 March 1988, at 2000 hours, approximately 50 soldiers from the Sandinist People's Army violated the Honduran frontier, entering our country through the Pico Español sector, department of El Paraíso.

Almost simultaneously, a unit of the Sandinist People's Army, containing an estimated 300 soldiers, crossed the frontier and entered our country in a further incursion through the Bocay sector, department of Olancho.

In presenting to the Government of Nicaragua the Honduran Government's extremely vigorous protest because of these incidents, which infringe our sovereignty and are a clear-cut and patent violation of international law, and for whose results the Government of Honduras cannot be held responsible, I must also state that acts of provocation and aggression of this nature tend to aggravate the already tense situation on the frontiers of our two countries.

DOCUMENT S/19679*

Letter dated 24 March 1988 from the representative of Lebanon to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Arabic*]
[*24 March 1988*]

On instructions from my Government, and further to my previous letters, I have the honour to draw your attention, and the attention of the international community as represented by the United Nations and the Security Council, to the fact that in less than 24 hours Israel launched two vicious aerial attacks on the eastern suburbs of Sidon and the villages of Majdalyoun, Bcosta and Salhie. According to preliminary reports, more than 10 people were killed and 20 wounded, including two young children, in the first attack. It is not yet known how many people were killed and wounded in the second attack.

The first attack, which lasted half an hour and took place in three successive waves, was launched at 1800 hours (local time) on Wednesday, 23 March, by three Israeli fighter planes. Its target was the outskirts of the city of Sidon and the three villages mentioned. The planes dropped more than 25 bombs and rockets on buildings in these areas, causing them to collapse with their occupants inside. After this first assault, the planes returned to the attack twice more while relief workers tried to help the victims and evacuate the dead and wounded.

At 1300 hours (local time) on 24 March, Israeli planes returned to bomb the same area, and so far it has been impossible to determine the number of casualties because of the violence of the rocket bombardment, which took place in six successive waves and lasted a whole hour.

These two attacks are the second and third in one week, the fourth and fifth in less than two weeks and the sixth and seventh since the beginning of 1988.

The Lebanese Government vigorously condemns these criminal, vicious attacks and reminds the United Nations and the Security Council of their responsibilities. Whatever pretext Israel may have given for these attacks, they are inadmissible and no rational person can tolerate them.

Israel's contempt for international custom and law and for the Charter of the United Nations is already well known to everyone. The international community must therefore react swiftly and vigorously to the aggression by Israel, which is rebelling against the international will and repeatedly violating the sovereignty of a country Member of the United Nations, killing women, old people and children who are Lebanese citizens or residents, destroying their property, burning their farms and fields and destroying their crops.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Rachid FAKHOURY
Permanent Representative of Lebanon
to the United Nations

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/237-S/19679.

DOCUMENT S/19680

Letter dated 23 March 1988 from the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*24 March 1988*]

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to enclose herewith a series of photographs depicting the death and destruction wrought by the savage Iraqi attacks against the cities of the Islamic Republic of Iran.[16] These photographs are sent to you in the hope that they will bring to life the enormity of the outrageous Iraqi war crimes, in response to which the international community has so far assumed a deplorable silence.

It would be highly appreciated if this letter and its annexed photographs were circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammad Ja'afar MAHALLATI
Acting Permanent Representative
of the Islamic Republic of Iran
to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19681*

Letter dated 23 March 1988 from the representative of Mongolia to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Russian*]
[*24 March 1988*]

I have the honour to transmit the text of a statement made today by a representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Mongolian People's Republic, condemning the activities of the United States Government directed against Nicaragua and Panama.

I request you to have the text of this statement circulated as a document of the forty-second session of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Gendengiin NYAMDOO
Permanent Representative of Mongolia
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Statement made by a representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mongolia on 23 March 1988

The situation in Central America has recently been aggravated by an intensification of United States adventurist schemes to disrupt the implementation of the Guatemala agreement between five Central American countries on the procedure for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace in the region [*S/19085, annex*].

The Republic of Nicaragua, which has for years been the object of threats, pressure, calumny and aggression from Washington, is making enormous efforts and doing everything required of it to promote a peaceful resolution of the regional crisis. Its peace efforts justly enjoy the approval and support of world public opinion.

In conformity with the Guatemala agreement, the Government of Nicaragua is consistently pursuing a policy of national reconciliation. It has enacted a general amnesty, released prisoners, allowed the press and radio of opposition parties, groupings and regional organizations to operate freely, lifted the former state of emergency in the country and begun talks with the contras. This amounts to a major step towards peace and stability in the region. The situation surrounding the country, however, has been made still more acute by the dispatch by the United States Administration of further contingents of troops to Honduras and the growing threat of direct intervention against Nicaragua.

By meddling openly in the domestic affairs of yet another country in the region, Panama, the United States seeks to impose its imperial will. The evident deterioration of the situation in Panama is a direct manifestation of the aggressive intentions of the United States Administration, which is pursuing the goal of putting down, through military, political and economic pressure, the struggle by the Panamanian people to defend and strengthen their country's sovereignty, political and economic independence.

The United States policy of neo-globalism, which has led to the serious deterioration of the situation in Central America, is fundamentally at odds both with the desires of the world community and with the resolution of regional crises and conflicts through peaceful means and efforts to establish comprehensive security on an equal basis.

The Mongolian People's Republic consistently supports the efforts by Nicaragua and other Central American countries to resolve the conflicts that have arisen in the region peacefully, on the basis of diminished military and political tension and respect for the legitimate interests of all parties. Accordingly, it roundly condemns the aggressive actions of the United States Administration, notably the fresh, dangerous steps it has now taken against Nicaragua and Panama, and demands that that Administration heed the opinion of the world community.

* Circulated under the double symbol A/42/944-S/19681.

DOCUMENT S/19682*

Letter dated 24 March 1988 from the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*25 March 1988*]

Upon instructions from my Government and pursuant to my previous letters concerning the use of chemical weapons by the Iraqi régime, I have the honour to inform you that the Iraqi régime has persisted in attacking civilian quarters inside the Islamic Republic of Iran with chemical weapons.

On 22 March, 1988, the suburbs of Sardasht and the villages of Namshaz, Tazvar, Valak and Ghal'eh-ji in the vicinity of Marivan became the latest targets of Iraqi chemical warfare. The chemical agents were employed in three separate aerial bombardments by 13 aircraft.

As a result of this latest Iraqi atrocity, 31 people have so far been martyred and 450 others seriously injured. The martyrs include a one-year-old child and an 80-year-old man.

It is indeed regrettable that the United Nations has remained indifferent not only when Iraq used chemical weapons against combatants but also when it resorted to the heinous crime of using chemical weapons against Iranian and Iraqi civilians. The history of the use of chemical weapons by the war criminals in Baghdad clearly illustrates the fact that the inaction of the United Nations—caused by political expediency—has only emboldened the Iraqi rulers to increase the intensity and gravity of their crimes. The recent systematic and large-scale use of chemical weapons against civilians is the most unfortunate illustration of the effects of past inaction on the part of the international community.

Lack of immediate and effective action by the United Nations in the face of the latest unprecedented use of chemical weapons against civilians is yet another dangerous message as regards the impunity of war criminals. It is horrifying even to speculate how the Iraqi war criminals would interpret this message in planning and carrying out their future acts of genocide and other crimes against humanity.

In view of the above, the Islamic Republic of Iran once again requests the immediate dispatch of the United Nations team of experts on chemical weapons to the area without further delay.

It would be highly appreciated if this letter were circulated as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammad Ja'afar MAHALLATI
Acting Permanent Representative
of the Islamic Republic of Iran
to the United Nations

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/239-S/19682.

DOCUMENT S/19683*

Letter dated 25 March 1988 from the representative of China to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Chinese*]
[*25 March 1988*]

I have the honour to enclose herewith the text of the note of reply of 23 March 1988 from the Foreign Ministry of the People's Republic of China to the note of the Foreign Ministry of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam dated 17 March [*S/19662, annex*].

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and the full text of the attached note of reply circulated as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) DING Yuanhong
Acting Permanent Representative
of the People's Republic of China
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Note of reply of 23 March 1988 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China to the note of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Viet Nam dated 17 March 1988

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam and, with reference to the latter's note dated 17 March, has the honour to reply as follows.

1. China has indisputable sovereignty over the Xisha and Nansha Islands. Until 1974, Viet Nam had always recognized and never disputed this fact in its government statements, formal notes and maps in public circulation.

2. The Chinese side has all along stood for a peaceful settlement of disputes between States. After Viet Nam's illegal invasion and occupation of some islands of China's Nansha Islands, Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping, the then Vice-Premier, pointed out in September 1975 to the visiting Vietnamese leader Le Duan that the Chinese side had conclusive evidence to prove that the Xisha and Nansha Islands have been part of Chinese territory since ancient times. It was on the principle of "settling disputes through friendly consultations" that Vice-Premier Deng Xiaoping indicated that "the issue could be discussed in due course". Regrettably, far from abandoning their erroneous practice, the Vietnamese authorities have sent even more troops to intensify their seizure and occupation of the islands and atolls of China's Nansha Islands in an attempt to perpetuate their occupation. Recently Viet Nam has stepped up its efforts to grab China's islands and atolls and made armed provocations against Chinese vessels, thus creating tensions in and around the Nansha Islands. For Viet Nam to put forward the so-called negotiation proposal under such circumstances can only serve to show its hypocrisy once again.

3. The present tensions in and around the Nansha Islands are the sole making of the Vietnamese side. Viet Nam must withdraw its forces from the illegally occupied islands and atolls of China's Nansha Islands and stop its provocations in this sea area. Otherwise, the Vietnamese side must bear full responsibilities for all the consequences arising therefrom.

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/240-S/19683.

DOCUMENT S/19684

Letter dated 25 March 1988 from the representative of Tunisia to the President of the Security Council

[*Original: Arabic*]
[*25 March 1988*]

I have the honour to request that you have circulated, as an official document of the Security Council, the letter which I sent you on 15 March 1988 in which the Group of Arab States asked the Security Council to consider the increasingly dangerous situation prevailing in the occupied territories.

(*Signed*) Ahmed GHEZAL
Permanent Representative of Tunisia to the United Nations

ANNEX

Letter dated 15 March 1988 from the representative of Tunisia to the President of the Security Council

In my capacity as Chairman of the Arab Group for the month of March 1988, I wish to draw your attention and, through you, the attention of the members of the Security Council to the critical situation in the occupied Palestinian territories resulting from the escalation of the campaign of repression, violence and abuse which the Israeli occupation authorities are waging against the defenceless Palestinian people, including women, children and old men, thereby persisting in their violation of the most elementary human rights.

Within this framework falls the recent decision of the Israeli authorities giving their military leadership powers to declare the occupied territories closed to the various information media that have been assiduously transmitting the truth about what is happening in the occupied territories in order to apprise world public opinion about the terrorist crimes and operations of oppression and repression which are being carried out by the occupation authorities and which threaten the lives of the youth of the Palestinian people.

In the face of the escalation of these repressive and provocative acts and in the absence of the necessary protection for the Palestinian people, the Arab Group considers that the time has come for the Security Council to assume its responsibilities fully and face this grave situation squarely in order to protect the Palestinian people and the occupied territories and to put an end to the arbitrary Israeli policies and practices, in accordance with Security Council resolution 605 (1987) and in implementation of the recommendations of the Secretary-General, as contained in his report in document S/19443 of 21 January 1988, and that it is incumbent on the Council to consider the matter in the light of the daily recurring grave developments in the occupied territories.

(*Signed*) Ahmed GHEZAL
Permanent Representative of Tunisia to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19685*

Letter dated 25 March 1988 from the representative of Viet Nam to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*25 March 1988*]

Upon instructions from my Government and further to my previous letters, I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a note sent on 23 March 1988 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) NGUYEN BINH THANH
Acting Permanent Representative of Viet Nam to the United Nations

ANNEX

Note dated 23 March 1988 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Viet Nam to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China

On 17 March 1988, the Foreign Ministry of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam sent a note to the Foreign Ministry of the People's Republic of China proposing that the Governments of the two countries hold talks to solve differences concerning the Truong Sa archipelago and the disputes over their common border and the Hoang Sa archipelago and that, in the mean time, both sides commit themselves not to use force to settle disputes. This proposal meets the aspirations of the peoples of Viet Nam and China and has won the approval of public opinion in South-East Asia and in the rest of the world.

Further to that note, the Government of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam proposed that the Governments of the two countries appoint their representatives at the level of Foreign Minister or Deputy Foreign Minister to Beijing for bilateral talks at the earliest date to be agreed upon by the two sides. The Vietnamese side wishes an early response from the Chinese side to this proposal.

While delivering the note to the Chinese ambassador here on 23 March, First Deputy Foreign Minister Dinh Nho Liem reminded him that the Chinese side should keep its commitment not to let its warships prevent the rescue vessels of Viet Nam from saving Viet Nam's sailors on board the three freighters which had been set on fire at the Sinh Ton group of islands within the Truong Sa archipelago.

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/255-S/19685.

DOCUMENT S/19686

Letter dated 25 March 1988 from the representative of Iraq to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Arabic*]
[*25 March 1988*]

On instructions from my Government and further to our numerous letters concerning the Iranian régime's continued bombardment of purely residential areas in Iraq, I have the honour to inform you that on 22, 23 and 24 March 1988, the forces of that régime carried out a series of acts of aggression details of which are set forth in the attached annex.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ismat KITTANI
Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations

ANNEX

Iranian bombardment

Time	*Place*	*Projectiles*	*Casualties and damage*
0930 to 1030	Sulaymaniyah governorate: Qala Diza district	9	4 citizens, including 2 children, wounded; 3 dwellings damaged
0318	Centre of Basra city	15	1 man killed and 1 woman wounded; 1 civilian vehicle and a number of dwellings damaged
0305	Diyala governorate: Khanaqin district	—	—
0840 to 1716	Centre of Basra governorate: Al-Ma'qil, Al-Jubaylah, Al-Jaza'ir, Al-Ribat, Al-Sa'udiyah, Old Basra, Al-Dakir, Al-Sa'i, Al-Aliyah, Al-Buradi'iyah, Al-Batihah, Al-Jazirah and Qurnah	114	1 primary school and a number of dwellings and businesses damaged
1135 to 1620	Maysan governorate: Ali Al-Gharbi district	55	1 woman wounded
0100 to 0600	Diyala governorate: Khanaqin district	13	—
1735 to 2300	Centre of Basra governorate: Al-Ashshar, Al-Jubaylah, Al-Junaynah, Al-Jumhuriyah, Al-Zahra quarter, Al-Aliyah, Al-Hakimiyah, Old Basra, Al-Tuwaysah, Al-Sa'i, Sa'd Square, Kut, Al-Hujjaj, Al-Ribat and Qurnah district	163	4 citizens wounded; 3 dwellings destroyed; a number of other houses damaged and 1 dwelling set ablaze
1015	Diyala governorate: Khanaqin district	—	2 women wounded; 1 house destroyed and 3 others damaged

DOCUMENT S/19687

Letter dated 25 March 1988 from the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*25 March 1988*]

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to enclose herewith a list of violations of the rules of international law and the territorial sovereignty of the Islamic Republic of Iran by the United States forces in the Persian Gulf.

It would be highly appreciated if this letter and its annex were circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammad Ja'afar MAHALLATI
Acting Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations

ANNEX

United States violations of international law in the Persian Gulf

Warnings by United States ships to Iranian sea-patrol aircraft

1. On 2 January 1988, at 0905 hours, an American ship at the position of 26°30′ N and 56°10′ E warned an Iranian sea-patrol aircraft at the position of 26°35′ N and 26°15′ E flying over Iranian territorial waters not to fly closer to the ship.

2. On 2 January, at 1450 hours, an American ship at the position of 25°20′ N and 57°30′ E warned an Iranian sea-patrol aircraft at the position of 25°25′ N and 57°30′ E not to fly closer to the ship.

3. On 3 January, at 1035 hours, an American ship at the position of 24°55′ N and 57°53′ E warned an Iranian sea-patrol aircraft at the position of 25°00′ N and 57°50′ E not to fly closer to the ship.

4. On 5 January, at 0950 hours, an American ship at the position of 25°46′ N and 56°55′ E warned an Iranian sea-patrol aircraft at the position of 26°14′ N and 56°48′ E not to fly closer to the ship.

5. On 7 January, at 1215 hours, an American ship at the position of 25°35′ N and 56°40′ E warned an Iranian sea-patrol aircraft at the position of 25°39′ N and 56°58′ E not to fly closer to the ship.

6. On 8 January, at 1530 hours, an American ship at the position of 24°50′ N and 56°57′ E warned an Iranian sea-patrol aircraft at the position of 25°23′ N and 58°09′ E flying over Iranian territorial waters not to fly closer to the ship.

7. On 8 January, at 1630 hours, an American warship at the position of 24°50′ N and 56°57′ E warned an Iranian sea-patrol aircraft at the position of 25°32′ N and 58°06′ E flying over Iranian territorial waters not to fly closer to the ship.

8. On 13 January, at 1502 hours, an American ship at the position of 25°25′ N and 57°24′ E warned an Iranian sea-patrol aircraft at the position of 25°83′ N and 57°21′ E flying over territorial waters at a distance of 12 miles from the ship not to fly closer to the ship.

9. On 14 January, at 1535 hours, American ship No. 58 at the position of 25°08′ N and 57°08′ E warned an Iranian sea-patrol aircraft at the position of 25°10′ N and 56°57′ E at a distance of 11 miles from the ship not to fly closer to the ship.

10. On 14 January, at 1540 hours, American ship No. 42 at the position of 25°00′ N and 57°11′ E warned an Iranian sea-patrol aircraft at the position of 25°00′ N and 56°54′ E at a distance of 17 miles from the ship not to fly closer to the ship.

11. On 14 January, at 1543 hours, American ship No. 20 at the position of 24°58′ N and 57°20′ E warned an Iranian sea-patrol aircraft at the position of 24°55′ N and 57°04′ E at a distance of 17 miles from the ship not to fly closer to the ship.

12. On 17 January, at 0923 hours, American ship No. 996 at the position of 25°44′ N and 55°15′ E warned an Iranian sea-patrol aircraft at the position of 26°10′ N and 55°20′ E not to fly closer to the ship.

13. On 20 January, at 0815 hours, American ship No. 19 at the position of 25°17′ N and 57°08′ E warned an Iranian sea-patrol aircraft at the position of 25°39′ N and 57°14′ E flying over Iranian territorial waters not to fly closer to the ship.

14. On 21 January, at 1253 hours, American ship No. 19 at the position of 26°25′ N and 56°43′ E warned an Iranian sea-patrol aircraft at the position of 26°13′ N and 56°50′ E not to fly closer to the ship.

15. On 7 February, at 1600 hours, American ship No. 26 at the position of 25°50′ N and 55°24′ E warned an Iranian sea-patrol aircraft at the position of 25°56′ N and 55°24′ E not to fly closer to the ship.

Interception of Iranian sea-patrol aircraft by United States aircraft

1. On 18 January, at 1015 hours, an American F-18 aircraft at the position of 24°50′ N and 59°00′ E intercepted an Iranian sea-patrol aircraft for the duration of 5 minutes.

2. On 20 January, at 0850 hours, two American F-18 aircraft at the position of 25°10′ N and 58°12′ E intercepted an Iranian sea-patrol aircraft for the duration of 5 minutes.

DOCUMENT S/19688*

Letter dated 25 March 1988 from the representative of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to the Secretary-General

[Original: English/French]
[25 March 1988]

On instructions from my Government and further to my previous letters concerning the situation along the Lao-Thai border in the area of Nabonoi commune, Botène district, Sayaboury province, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the texts of the translations from Lao of the press release issued by the delegation of the Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic dated 18 March 1988 (annex I) and of the note verbale of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic dated 23 March 1988 addressed to the Embassy of the Kingdom of Thailand (annex II).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annexes circulated as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Alounkeo KITTIKHOUN
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission
of the Lao People's Democratic Republic
to the United Nations

ANNEX I

Press statement issued on 18 March 1988 by the governmental delegation of the Lao People's Democratic Republic

1. As a continuation of the negotiations held between the governmental delegations of the Lao People's Democratic Republic and the Kingdom of Thailand at Bangkok on 3 and 4 March 1988, the negotiations at the same level between the two countries, aimed at settling the confrontation that has occurred in the border area between Botène district of the Lao Sayaboury province and Chattakarn district of the Thai Phitsanoulok province, took place at Vientiane on 17 and 18 March.

The negotiations were held in a good and frank atmosphere, with a view to finding a solution to the incidents in the said area on the basis of justice and equality.

Both delegations have reaffirmed their duties to consult together on the solution of the incident in the area connecting Botène district of the Lao Sayaboury province and Chattakarn district of the Thai Phitsanoulok province on the basis of the principles of law and justice, by adhering to the 1907 Franco-Siamese treaty and the relevant maps, as well as the goals of the negotiations as stipulated in the joint press statements issued by the military delegations of both sides on 17 [*S/19520, annex*] and 24 February 1988 [*S/19539, annex*] and reiterated in the message dated 24 February of the Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand, Mr. Prem Tinsulanonda [*S/19545, annex*], and in that of 26 February of the President of the Council of Ministers of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mr. Kaysone Phomvihane.

In that spirit, the Lao side has specified its positions on the Thai proposal to create an *ad hoc* committee in order to examine, supervise and demarcate the border. The Lao side does not see any inconvenience in the creation of the committee, but above all the two governmental delegations must agree upon the principles and fundamental issues on the basis of which it will discharge its function. The committee would not be able to act in the name of the governmental delegations of both countries. In relation to the re-establishment of the border commission at different levels, which was created in accordance with the 1979 Lao-Thai joint communiqués, the Lao side believes that this commission would work in an efficient manner only when the incidents between the two countries would be definitely settled on the basis of mutual respect for independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, in conformity with international law and the Charter of the United Nations.

2. The governmental delegations from both sides will continue the consideration of juridical arguments by adhering to the Franco-Siamese treaty of 23 March 1907 and the relevant maps.

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/256-S/19688.

(*a*) From the juridical standpoint:

The Lao side assesses that the 1907 Franco-Siamese treaty and the protocol annexed thereto are the undeniable juridical basis for locating the border between Laos and Thailand in this region.

Clause 2 of the protocol stipulates that "on the side of Luang Prabang, the border at the south detaches from the Mekong at the mouth of the Nam Huong and follows the thalweg of this stream up to its source located at the Phou Khao Mieng. From there, the border traces the watershed between the Mekong and the Menam up to the point called Keng Pha Day, in conformity with the borderline adopted by the former commission of border demilitation on 16 January 1906."

Thus, the Nam Huong constitutes the border between Laos and Thailand in this region. In addition to the 1907 Franco-Siamese treaty and its protocol, all other juridical documents agreed upon by the two French and Siamese sides before and after 1907 clearly stipulate that the Nam Huong is the border in this region. There exist no juridical documents which formulate that the Nam Huong Nga constitutes the border.

(*b*) From the standpoint of maps:

In clause 2 of the protocol, no map or sketch annexed to the treaty was mentioned. The Lao side asserts therefore that there exists no map on this region in the treaty; the Thai side itself has recognized this fact.

Since there exists no map annexed to the treaty, the Lao side believes that relevant maps could help in the search of the Lao-Thai border in this region. The relevant maps must be in conformity with the spirit and letter of the Franco-Siamese Treaty of 1907 and its protocol.

3. Both sides did not reach an agreement over some fundamental issues from the juridical as well as administrative standpoints. The meeting between the two governmental delegations did not achieve its mission and has not reached the expected results.

The governmental delegation of the Lao People's Democratic Republic stands ready to continue the dialogue at Bangkok or at Vientiane with the aim of settling the problem peacefully.

ANNEX II

Note verbale dated 23 March 1988 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to the Embassy of Thailand

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic presents its compliments to the Embassy of the Kingdom of Thailand and has the honour to acknowledge receipt of the latter's notes No. 259/2531 and No. 260/2531 dated 18 and 21 March 1988 respectively. In this regard, the Lao Ministry of Foreign Affairs would like to make the following comments.

1. The Lao People's Democratic Republic congratulates the Kingdom of Thailand for its intention to re-establish and improve the border committee, which was set up in accordance with the two 1979 Lao-Thai joint communiqués.

The Lao People's Democratic Republic, for its part, has strictly respected and implemented the 1979 joint communiqués and has always striven to improve the work of this border committee. The reason such a border committee could not function was that it did not entirely perform its role.

The Lao People's Democratic Republic is of the view that the structure and the role of the re-established and reinforced border committee must conform to the letter of the 1979 Lao-Thai joint communiqué, namely, the one dated 4 April 1979, in which the heads of the Governments of both countries have agreed "to turn the entire Lao-Thai border (fluvial and terrestrial) into a border of peace and friendship on the basis of the strict respect for each other's independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and legitimate interests, as well as for the principle of peaceful settlement of all differences".

Nevertheless, the Lao side believes that the present urgent border problem that has occurred in the area connecting the Botène district of the Lao Sayaboury province and the Chattakarn district of the Thai Phitsanoulok province is to be settled by the governmental delegations of both countries. The success in reaching a solution to this problem will create favourable conditions for the efficient work of the border committee of the two countries.

In order to settle the border incidents in the area between the Sayaboury province of Laos and the Phitsanoulok province of Thailand, the Lao governmental delegation has clarified its position in the two rounds of negotiations, held on 3 and 4 March 1988 at Bangkok and on 17 and 18 March at Vientiane, and has stressed many times that the Lao side does not reject the creation of this joint technical committee. At present, the governmental delegations of both countries are continuing the consultations in order to progress to the delineation of the border in the area between Botène district and Chattakarn district, in keeping with the treaty of 23 March 1907 and the relevant maps. Whenever the two sides are able to locate the border in this area, it will be appropriate to establish this joint Lao-Thai technical committee for a concrete survey in the field. This committee will only be an organ established for the implementation of the duties entrusted to it by the governmental delegations, but it can not replace the governmental delegations of both countries.

In the two rounds of negotiations, the Thai governmental delegation not only rejected the reasonable proposals to delineate the border forwarded by the Lao side in conformity with the letter of the Franco-Siamese treaty of 1907 and the protocol annexed thereto, but maintains its position concerning the map, which was proved by the Lao side to possess no juridical basis.

Furthermore, the Thai side still does not recognize the Nam Huong as the border, as it was clearly stipulated in the 1907 treaty and its protocol. Such an attitude demonstrates the Thai intention to prolong the negotiations and delay the solution to the border contention in this area, and this with the aim of continuing to encroach upon a part of the Lao territory in this area. Hence, the negotiations did not reach the expected results and does not respond to the aspirations and expectations of the Lao and Thai peoples or to public opinion in the region and in the world.

2. The Lao People's Democratic Republic reaffirms once again its consistent stand: its intention to settle the border incident in this area by peaceful means and through negotiations. The governmental delegation of the Lao People's Democratic Republic stands ready to go to Bangkok at any time to continue the negotiations aimed at finding a solution to this border incident on the basis of justice and equality, in the interest of the long-standing and eternal friendship between the brotherly Lao and Thai peoples and of peace and security in South-East Asia and in the world.

DOCUMENT S/19689*

Letter dated 25 March 1988 from the representative of Pakistan to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*25 March 1988*]

The present round of Geneva talks, under the auspices of your Personal Representative, Under-Secretary-General Diego Cordovez, which began on 2 March 1988, has not yet reached a conclusive stage. These difficult and delicate talks are being conducted with great skill and circumspection by your Personal Representative, demanding a similar response from all those genuinely interested in their successful outcome.

Pakistan recognizes that the success of the ongoing talks is vital for the peace and security of the region and the tranquillity and stability of Afghanistan itself, and it considers the use of the occasion for propagandistic purposes impermissible.

These considerations do not seem to have carried weight with the Kabul side, which has hastily circulated three documents at the United Nations (S/19546 dated 26 Febru-

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/257-S/19689.

ary 1988, S/19566 dated 2 March 1988 and S/19640 dated 17 March 1988) in an attempt to distort the facts of the situation and to misrepresent Pakistan's principled stand on the issue, in the hope of securing a propaganda advantage.

The contents of these documents are transparently false and misleading. Pakistan is participating in the Geneva talks in order to promote the conclusion of a settlement that would ensure the orderly withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan, within the agreed time frame, and the early return of the millions of refugees in Pakistan and Iran to their hearths and homes, in peaceful conditions.

Pakistan's chief concern is to sign an agreement at Geneva that is relevant to the prevailing conditions and is implementable in all its aspects, and not to endorse a piece of paper that completes a formality but is devoid of substance.

The requirement of an implementable agreement reflects the full sense of responsibility with which Pakistan views the concluding stages of the Geneva process. The actions suggested by Pakistan do not, by any means, constitute preconditions for the conclusion of the agreement. Spending more time on negotiating an agreement that is complete in all aspects is preferable to a defective agreement drawn up in haste.

Pakistan has laid great emphasis on the need for symmetry of obligations and the establishment of an interim Government, which would ensure peaceful conditions and facilitate the smooth implementation of the agreement. These requirements reflect Pakistan's concern for the avoidance of bloodshed and the creation of a favourable atmosphere for the implementation of the agreement, and do not constitute new pre-conditions for the signing of the agreement.

To put any other interpretation on Pakistan's principled stand in this matter is to attempt to mislead world public opinion and to adopt a deplorable propaganda approach to a problem that engages the most serious attention of the international community.

It is our fervent hope, as well as the real objective of our current endeavours, that the present round of Geneva talks will be the last of the series and will yield an all-round commitment to the principle of promoting a transitional government with the active involvement of the Secretary-General's Personal Representative.

I request you to have this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) S. Shah NAWAZ
Permanent Representative of Pakistan
to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19690

Letter dated 25 March 1988 from the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*25 March 1988*]

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran has declared Saturday, 26 March 1988, a day of national mourning in the memory of the victims of the chemical bombing of Halabja by the Ba'athist régime of Iraq as well as the massacre of Palestinians at the hands of the Zionist régime occupying Quds. It is, therefore, requested that on the said day, the flag of the Islamic Republic of Iran at the United Nations premises be accordingly half raised.

It would be highly appreciated if this letter were circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammad Ja'afar MAHALLATI
Acting Permanent Representative
of the Islamic Republic of Iran
to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19691*

Letter dated 23 March 1988 from the representative of the Federal Republic of Germany to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English/French/Spanish*]
[*29 March 1988*]

I have the honour to transmit herewith the texts of the following:

(*a*) The Joint Political Declaration of the Ministerial Conference on Political Dialogue and Economic Co-operation between the European Community and its member States, and the States of Central America and of the Contadora Group, held at Hamburg, Federal Republic of Germany, on 29 February and 1 March 1988 (annex I);

(*b*) The Joint Economic Communiqué issued by the European Community and the States parties to the General Treaty on Central American Economic Integration and Panama, resulting from the Ministerial Conference on Political Dialogue and Economic Co-operation between the

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/258-S/19691.

European Community and its member States, and the States of Central America and of the Contadora Group (annex II).

The original languages of these two documents are English, French and Spanish.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annexes circulated as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Alexander COUNT YORK
Permanent Representative
of the Federal Republic of Germany
to the United Nations

ANNEX I

Joint Political Declaration of the Ministerial Conference on Political Dialogue and Economic Co-operation between the European Community and its member States, and the States of Central America and of the Contadora Group

1. The fourth conference between the European Community and its member States and the countries of Central America and of the Contadora Group on the political dialogue inaugurated at San José, Costa Rica, on 28 and 29 September 1984 and continued at Luxembourg on 11 and 12 November 1985 and at Guatemala City on 9 and 10 February 1987, and on economic co-operation between the European Community and the countries of the Central American isthmus, was held at Hamburg, on 29 February and 1 March 1988.

2. Those taking part in the Conference were:

For the European Community:

Mr. Leo TINDEMANS
Minister for Foreign Affairs of Belgium

Mr. Uffe ELLEMANN-JENSEN
Minister for Foreign Affairs of Denmark

Mr. Jean-Bernard RAIMOND
Minister for Foreign Affairs of France

Mr. Hans-Dietrich GENSCHER
Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Germany

Mr. Karolos PAPOULIAS
Minister for Foreign Affairs of Greece

Mr. Brian LENIHAN, TD
Tanaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ireland

Mr. Giulio ANDREOTTI
Minister for Foreign Affairs of Italy

Mr. Robert GOEBBELS
Minister for Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Co-operation of Luxembourg

Mr. Hans VAN DEN BROEK
Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands

Mr. Jose Manuel DURAO BARROSO
Minister for Foreign Affairs and for Co-operation of Portugal

Mr. Franciso FERNÁNDEZ ORDÓÑEZ
Minister for Foreign Affairs of Spain

Mr. Tim EGGAR, MP
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Mr. Claude CHEYSSON
Member of the Commission of the European Communities

For Central America:

Mr. Rodrigo MADRIGAL NIETO
Minister for Foreign Affairs of Costa Rica

Mr. Ricardo ACEVEDO PERALTA
Minister for Foreign Affairs of El Salvador

Mr. Alfonso CABRERA HIDALGO
Minister for Foreign Affairs of Guatemala

Mr. Carlos LOPEZ CONTRERAS
Minister for Foreign Affairs of Honduras

Mr. Miguel D'ESCOTO BROCKMANN
Minister for Foreign Affairs of Nicaragua

For the Contadora countries:

Mr. Julio LONDOÑO PAREDES
Minister for Foreign Affairs of Colombia

Mr. Bernardo SEPÚLVEDA AMOR
Minister for Foreign Affairs of Mexico

Mr. José M. CABRERA
Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of Panama

Mr. Germán NAVA CARRILLO
Minister for Foreign Affairs of Venezuela

Permanent Secretariat of the General Treaty on Central American Economic Integration:

Mr. Marco Antonio VILLAMAR CONTRERAS
Secretary General

3. The participants held an extensive exchange of views on the political and economic issues that have been their common concern since their first meeting at San José four years ago. They considered the Hamburg Conference an important and promising step in the dialogue and co-operation between the two regions. The meeting took place against a background of considerable efforts towards achieving peace and stability in the area and towards strengthening respect for international law, democratic principles, human rights, social justice and economic development in Central America. The participants renewed their commitment to fostering these goals.

4. The Ministers of the European Community paid tribute to the five Central American Presidents, whose high sense of responsibility brought about the signing of the "Procedures for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace in Central America" [*S/19085, annex*], on 7 August 1987, based on the plan put forward by the President of Costa Rica and on the proposals from the other countries of Central America and inspired by the determination to achieve the objectives and to develop the principles laid down in the Charter of the United Nations, the charter of the Organization of American States, the Document of Objectives of the Contadora Group [*S/16041, annex*], the Caraballeda Message for Peace, Security and Democracy in Central America [*S/17736, annex*], the Guatemala Declaration[21] and Punta del Este Communiqué [*S/17906, annex*], the Panama Message [*S/18143, annex*], the Esquipulas Declaration [*S/18106, annex*] and the draft Contadora Act on Peace and Co-operation in Central America, of 6 June 1986 [*S/18184, annex II*].

5. The Ministers of Central America and of the European Community expressed their gratitude to the Contadora and Support Groups for their continued support for and encouragement of the peace process, for their valuable contribution to the efforts of the Central American Presidents, which culminated in the Guatemala agreement [*S/19085, annex*], and their readiness to co-operate in its implementation. They likewise encouraged them to persist in their willingness to co-operate in the search for a peaceful solution.

6. The Ministers of the Contadora Group pointed out that peace and stability in Central America are matters of priority to the extent that not only free determination, the consolidation of democracy and the development of the Central American peoples are at stake, but also the preservation of the interests of the whole region. They also expressed their willingness to make a continuing contribution to the efforts to achieve peace in Central America.

7. The Ministers of Central America and of the European Community welcomed the decision taken by the Group of Eight in November 1987 to support the launching of an international emergency programme of co-operation for the Central American countries commensurate with the wish of the Central American Governments that the international community afford Central America a treatment guaranteeing peaceful development [*see S/19314, annex*].

8. The Ministers of Central America and of the Contadora Group recalled with satisfaction that it was at the European Council meeting at Stuttgart, Federal Republic of Germany, in June 1983 that the European Community first demonstrated its full support for the peace initiatives for Central America by underlining the importance of greater co-operation for the development of Central America.

9. The Ministers examined thoroughly developments in and prospects for Central America after the endorsement of the Guatemala process, which they saw as a unique example of political will and determination in the cause of peace, security, democracy, co-operation and socio-economic development.

10. The Ministers of the member States of the Community acknowledged the efforts of the International Verification and Follow-up Commission in helping to implement the Esquipulas II agreement, in particular the

contribution of the Secretaries-General of the United Nations and of the Organization of American States.

11. The Ministers exchanged views on the progress of the dialogue process for national reconciliation and democratization and reaffirmed their commitment to the principle of the full participation of the peoples in genuinely democratic political processes.

They also stressed the importance of an authentic, pluralistic, democratic process involving the promotion of social justice, respect for human rights, sovereignty, the territorial integrity of States and the right of all nations freely and without external interference of any kind to determine their economic, political and social model.

12. They expressed satisfaction at the various measures adopted for this purpose in line with the Guatemala process and emphasized the importance of the mechanisms introduced to permit, in accordance with the law, dialogue with all unarmed internal political opposition groups and with those groups that had accepted amnesty. They also took note with satisfaction of the efforts made to introduce cease-fires, as provided for in the Guatemala agreement. The participants appealed to all interested parties to continue these efforts to achieve an effective cessation of hostilities.

The Ministers also noted the importance of an amnesty decree in the national reconciliation process.

13. They pointed out that the commitment on the part of regional or extraregional Governments providing aid to non-regular forces or insurrectional movements to discontinue such aid was vital to the achievement of stable and lasting peace in the region.

The Ministers also stressed the importance of the commitment to prevent their territory being used and neither to provide nor to permit logistical military support for persons, organizations or groups whose aim is to destabilize the Governments of the Central American countries.

14. The Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the European Community and of the Contadora Group likewise voiced their deep satisfaction that the Central American Presidents had, at their summit meeting at Alajuela, Costa Rica, on 15 and 16 January 1988, ratified their desire for peace and stressed the importance of the Esquipulas II agreement [*S/19085, annex*], the conception and spirit of which were recognized as being of value for the achievement of democracy and peace in the region.

In this connection, they noted the acknowledgement by the Presidents that the Esquipulas II undertakings had not been honoured in full and the reaffirmation of their determination to fulfil unilateral, unconditional obligations on Governments to implement them completely and unfailingly.

15. They expressed their conviction that a framework of national and international institutions set up to verify that the commitments entered into were fulfilled was a key element of the Guatemala agreement.

The Ministers underlined the decision taken by the Presidents at San José on 16 January [*see S/19447, annex*] that the main task of verifying, monitoring and following up would be undertaken by the Executive Committee, made up of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Central American States. In the process, the Committee would administer co-operation among regional and extraregional States and bodies of recognized impartiality and technical capability that had indicated a wish to collaborate in the Central American peace process.

The Ministers also pointed to the Presidents' statement that the implementation of the agreements in the Esquipulas II document involved commitments the honouring of which by Governments was subject to essential and specific verification, in particular the cessation of aid to non-regular groups, the non-use of their territory for the purposes of supporting such groups and genuinely free electoral processes.

The Ministers voiced their conviction that verification that the commitments entered into were being fulfilled and maintained was an important component of the Esquipulas II agreement.

16. The Ministers of the European Community reiterated their desire to co-operate to the best of their ability in the performance of the task of verification, monitoring and following up entrusted to the Executive Committee, if so requested by all Central American States.

17. They welcomed the resolution of the Central American Presidents adopted on 16 January to the effect that the implementation of Esquipulas II entailed following up obligations comprising an already established strategy, namely, arms control and security and disarmament agreements.

In this connection they expressed their satisfaction at the continuation of the outstanding negotiations on security matters resumed at Caracas on 10 December 1987, with the Contadora Group taking part in its role as mediator.

18. The Ministers reiterated their conviction that it is essential for all countries with links to and interests in the region to contribute to the achievement of peace, stability and democracy in Central America and fully to respect the implementation of the undertakings entered into by the Central American Governments in the Guatemala process.

19. The participants particularly welcomed the signing by the Central American Presidents of the Constituent Treaty of the Central American Parliament and other political authorities, and they expressed the hope that an early approval or ratification of this Treaty by the Central American legislative bodies would enable direct elections to be organized, as soon as possible. They were confident that these elections would provide new impetus to the process of peace, democracy and regional integration in Central America.

20. The Ministers of the European Community and of the Contadora Group noted with satisfaction the decision of the Central American countries to adopt a system for the election of representatives to the Central American Parliament on the basis of common rules that encouraged true ideological pluralism guaranteeing the broadest participation by all political parties and helping to strengthen the democratic process in the States concerned. They noted with satisfaction that the Central American Governments had undertaken to invite third States and international organizations to send observers to the electoral process.

21. The European Community and the Contadora Group confirmed their intention of lending their full support to the establishment and functioning of the Central American Parliament. In this context, the European participants expressed their wish to promote, among other actions, co-operation between the European Parliament and the Central American Parliament as soon as the Constituent Treaty entered into force. The European Ministers stated that they were willing to respond positively to the invitation to send observers to the electoral process, taking into account their established national practices.

22. The Ministers of the European Community and of the Contadora Group welcomed the electoral agreements adopted by the Central American Presidents.

They also applauded the determination of the Central American Governments to develop and guarantee in their respective countries every human right and fundamental freedom, as defined in international agreements such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[3] the American Declaration of the Rights and Duties of Man,[22] and the American Convention on Human Rights.[23]

23. Peace, democracy and development are inseparable. In this respect, the Ministers and the Commission of the European Communities and the Ministers of the Contadora Group welcomed the determination of the Central American Governments to adopt agreements that would accelerate development and create more egalitarian societies that were free of poverty.

The Ministers noted with satisfaction the presentation by the Central American countries of an Immediate Plan of Action to obtain the support of the international community for the economic reactivation and development of their region. The Community and its member States stated that they were prepared, in order to support the peace process, to co-operate, with their particular contribution, in the implementation of this plan. The latter will be examined and co-ordinated with the plan of the United Nations and the other donor countries. The Community declares that as from now it is willing to grant special emergency aid in food, to strengthen the programme for the voluntary repatriation of refugees and the relocation of displaced persons and to make a specific contribution to the material and technical organization of the elections to the Central American Parliament.

24. They welcomed the measures adopted by the Central American Governments with the aim of facilitating the repatriation of refugees, on a voluntary and individual basis, and the programmes for assisting displaced persons. The European Ministers agreed on the urgent need to step up assistance for Central American programmes in this field.

25. The participants in the Hamburg Conference expressed satisfaction at the results of their dialogue, and they decided to meet next year in Central America, in accordance with the established practice.

26. The participants in the Hamburg Conference expressed their profound gratitude to the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany, at whose invitation the Conference was held. They also wholeheartedly thanked the Senate and the citizens of Hamburg for their excellent reception and warm hospitality, as well as for the perfect organization of the Conference, which had enabled it to proceed in a climate of constructive co-operation.

ANNEX II

Joint Economic Communiqué issued on 29 February 1988 by the European Community and the States parties to the General Treaty on Central American Economic Integration and Panama, resulting from the Ministerial Conference on Political Dialogue and Economic Co-operation between the European Community and its member States and the States of Central America and of the Contadora Group

1. The Community and the countries of the Central American isthmus, recalling the commencement of the structure for political and economic dialogue established at San José, Costa Rica, in 1984, the signing of the Economic Co-operation Agreement at Luxembourg in 1985, the agreements signed by the Presidents of the Central American Republics at the Esquipulas meetings and in particular the "Procedures for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace in Central America" [*S/19085, annex*], reaffirmed their belief that there was a close link between economic and social development and peace and political stability. In that context, having regard to the appeal from the Central American countries for major support in a spirit of solidarity from the international community to ensure sustained economic and social development in Central America, they stated their willingness to intensify their co-operation, strengthening it by putting in motion specific and supplementary actions intended to back up the agreement for peace in Central America and promote its effective realization.

2. The countries of the isthmus expressed their satisfaction at the conclusions adopted by the Council of the Community on 22 June 1987 on closer relations between the European Community and Latin America and the strengthening of industrial co-operation with the countries of the region. They noted that these conclusions offered a coherent framework and represented a new effort for the application of co-operation between the European Community and Latin America in general and the countries of the Central American isthmus in particular.

3. The Community and the countries of the isthmus welcomed the entry into force on 1 March 1987 of the Co-operation Agreement and expressed their satisfaction at the holding of the first meeting of the Joint Co-operation Committee set up under that Agreement, at which the areas of co-operation were defined. They likewise expressed their approval of the setting up of the Projects and Commodities Subcommittees.

4. Both parties expressed their concern at the fact that Central America is suffering from the effects of the international crisis and of conflicts taking place in some countries on its productive capacity and levels of production, and they are aware that the economic crisis compounds the social problems of the region. They noted that the conditions of critical poverty had worsened, affecting a large part of the Central American population.

5. The parties recognized that trade within Central America, which had served as a buffer in the cyclical downturns of trade with third countries, not only suffered from the crisis in the external sector, but, as the crisis worsened, magnified its negative effects on the economy, aggravated by, *inter alia*, the servicing of external debt, which constitutes a heavy burden on their economies, and by the natural disasters that have slowed down the process of economic and social development of the countries of the isthmus. Under these circumstances, investment possibilities and the import and export possibilities of the region are seriously curtailed, which contributes even further to the reduction of their growth prospects and accentuates factors of social and political instability.

6. Both parties recognized that the objective of achieving sustained economic and social development requires a solution to the serious problems of imbalance in the external sector: the contraction of investments, the growing obsolescence of production plants, the high levels of concealed and unconcealed unemployment and the cumulative nature of social backwardness.

7. The Community Ministers confirmed their willingness to pay particular attention to the external debt problems of the countries of the Central American isthmus in the context of resolution 42/198 of 11 December 1987 of the United Nations General Assembly.

8. The Community and the countries of the isthmus considered that the seventh session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), held at Geneva from 9 July to 3 August 1987, confirmed the importance of the role of UNCTAD in international co-operation and in trade and development matters and achieved positive results with the adoption, by consensus, of a Final Act[24] the effective application of which will foster the aforementioned co-operation.

9. The Community expressed satisfaction at the applications for membership in the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) by several countries of the isthmus, which constitutes a step forward in the integration of the region into the international trade system.

In this connection the countries of the isthmus welcomed with interest the fact that the Community had, in the context of the Uruguay Round, submitted a proposal at Geneva on trade in tropical products. They stated that this presented a valuable opportunity to improve access to the markets of the Community's member States for products of Central American origin and expressed the hope that their particular interests in this area would be taken into account.

The Community and the countries of the isthmus repeated their willingness to contribute positively towards reducing tension in international trade and to curb and proscribe protectionism and other restrictive practices. The Community pointed in this connection to the "standstill" and "roll-back" agreements concluded in the GATT framework.

10. The Community and the countries of the isthmus considered that, in order to contribute to the economic and social development of the region, the expansion and diversification of exports should be further encouraged. In this context, and taking into account the aspirations of the countries of the Central American isthmus and their different degree of development in relation to the countries of the Community, the latter stated that it was willing to continue its efforts to ensure for the countries of the Central American isthmus stable, and if possible wider, access to its market.

11. The Community reaffirmed that it intends, in the Joint Committee set up under the Co-operation Agreement, to examine the possibility of introducing improvements to the Generalized System of Preferences from 1 January 1989, based on the indications provided by the countries of the isthmus regarding products of special interest to them. Both parties expressed their satisfaction at the implementation of co-operation actions both at regional level through ASOEXPO and at the level of the various States of the isthmus, stating their willingness to widen these actions.

12. The Community confirmed its undertaking to pay particular attention to the problems occurring in Central America because of variations in the volume of revenue from exports of their basic products.

13. The Community, its member States and the countries of the isthmus recalled the undertaking given in the context of the Co-operation Agreement regarding possible barriers to trade that could result from the operation of sea transport. In this connection they agreed to include this topic for discussion by the Joint Committee, in the framework of co-operation that will be put into practice progressively—in accordance with the respective areas of responsibility—in order to seek mutually satisfactory solutions and promote the development of trade.

14. The countries of the isthmus stressed the importance of the aid from the Community and its member States to the economic and social development of the region, which complements the considerable efforts by the countries of the Central American isthmus. They also expressed their satisfaction at the fulfilment in 1987 of the commitment entered into by the Community under the Co-operation Agreement, signed at Luxembourg in 1985, substantially to increase all forms of aid to the region and the co-ordination of such actions, particularly in the present situation in which the Central American countries were making special efforts to achieve peace and development on the basis of the undertakings laid down in the Esquipulas agreement.

15. The Community and the countries of the isthmus reiterated that a large part of the aid should be devoted to regional actions aimed at strengthening the integration of the countries of the isthmus. Both parties confirmed their interest in continuing co-operation actions already begun in the following fields: food security, small and medium-sized undertakings, the development of co-operatives, health, the development of border zones, fisheries, forestry and tourist resources, the reactivation of existing industries and intraregional trade, and the strengthening of regional integration institutions.

16. Both parties consider that it is necessary to give an impetus to the production of and trade in basic food products necessary for the achievement of self-sufficiency in food and support for integrated rural development, emphasizing human development. The Community expressed its interest in co-operating on projects such as the exploitation of fishery resources, the development of aquaculture, the management of renewable natural resources and regional tourist development, which should be regarded as an effective instrument for economic reactivation, integration and peace. It also undertook to begin joint studies forthwith for the formulation of specific programmes and projects in these fields.

In the industrial field, the Central American isthmus proposed the adoption of programmes aimed at providing incentives to regional production through the selective reactivation of businesses and the provision of finan-

cial resources for joint industrial reconversion and investment programmes.

The Community expressed its willingness to examine the possibility of participating in these programmes, particularly in those intended to increase production in countries with chronic deficits in intraregional trade, for the purpose of achieving balanced trade.

17. The Community and the countries of the isthmus confirmed the importance of training and developing human resources within the framework of co-operation between the two regions. The countries of the isthmus signalled their satisfaction at the offers in this field aimed at supporting the regional integration process with the co-operation of the European Institute of Public Administration. On the other hand, they stressed customs harmonization activities carried out within the Permanent Secretariat of the General Treaty on Central American Economic Integration.

18. The Community and the isthmus countries expressed their satisfaction that a financial and technical assistance project had been launched with a view to drawing up a regional programme for energy supplies. In this connection the Community stated that it was ready to examine specific applications for financial and technical aid for the formulation of projects relating to electricity link-ups, power station repair and the promotion of new energy sources, energy conservation and joint generation.

19. Both parties, aware of the important role of science and technology in the social and economic development of the countries of Central America, as well as in their regional economic integration process, agreed to intensify scientific and technical co-operation between the two sides. To this end a special effort will be made to support the training of high-level scientists and the implementation of joint research projects to be carried out by research institutes of both parties, with support, moreover, for the strengthening of technological links in the region, which could include support for the creation of a Central American technological information network. Special reference was made to financial and technical support for the identification and formulation of region-wide projects and to studying the possibility of strengthening the Central American Institute for Industrial Research and Technology.

20. The Community and the countries of the isthmus recognized that safeguarding the environment for future generations was an aim that should not be neglected. The environment and natural resources of the isthmus constituted the real basis for future economic development. Greater attention will therefore be paid to safeguarding the environment and natural resources in the context of achieving the aim of sustained development in the region as an integral part of all policies concerning relations between the isthmus and the Community.

21. Both parties underlined the importance of the activities of the Central American Bank for Economic Integration for the economic development of the region. In this connection the ministers of the isthmus countries reiterated the importance of the Community member States participating in the Bank as extraregional partners and welcomed with satisfaction the confirmation of the willingness expressed by the Community to strengthen its collaboration with the Bank.

22. The Foreign Ministers of the countries of the Central American isthmus also stated that it was desirable that the Community take measures to support the strengthening of regional and national institutions as an incentive to development co-operation. This support might consist of actions to improve their management, administration and implementation capacity so that these institutions can carry out their tasks more efficiently. The Community took note of this request, to which it has, moreover, already envisaged acceding, and expressed its willingness to incorporate these actions into a regional assistance plan.

23. Both parties expressed their satisfaction with and support for the initiatives of the international community to encourage the development of the Central American region, set forth in General Assembly resolutions 42/1 and 42/204 of 7 October and 11 December 1987 respectively, which were co-sponsored, *inter alia*, by the countries of the European Community and the Central American isthmus and by the Latin American countries that are part of the Contadora Group and the Support Group.

24. The Community and the countries of the isthmus agreed to step up co-operation in the Central American region in certain specific fields, particularly in order to make a tangible contribution to the achievement of the objectives of the "Procedures for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace in Central America" [*S/19085, annex*].

The Community took note in this connection of the submission by the countries of the isthmus of the Immediate Plan of Action aimed at obtaining assistance from the international community for a special effort at the reactivation and economic development of the region.

This Plan is divided into two parts. The first part deals with an emergency plan, concentrating on food aid, the creation of a fund for the economic reactivation of Central America, energy security, external debt and assistance to refugees and displaced persons. The other part proposes a multi-annual economic reactivation plan and provides for a series of measures, particularly in the areas of the reactivation of intraregional trade, the promotion of extraregional exports, the development of the industrial, agricultural, forestry, fisheries and tourist sectors, infrastructure, social development, science and technology, the integration of border areas and support for the strengthening of institutions.

25. The Community welcomed the fact that the countries of the isthmus had submitted the Immediate Plan of Action for the development and economic reactivation of the region, having stated its readiness to co-operate in its implementation. This Plan is considered as advance implementation of the plan provided for in General Assembly resolutions 42/1 and 42/204, with which it will have to be co-ordinated. The Plan is designed to back up the implementation of the Agreement for peace and stability in the region. After the Community's participation has been examined and defined it will have to be co-ordinated with the other countries and international organizations that are taking part in this effort. The Community's participation in various specific measures under the Plan will be agreed jointly with the countries of the Central American isthmus.

26. As for the emergency measures proposed in the Immediate Plan of Action, particularly in the context of the chapter on food aid, the Community has already stated that it is prepared to take into account the problems caused by the drought that the region has suffered in recent months. In this connection and upon the submission of a reasoned and detailed request, the Community undertook, in co-ordination with the relevant international organizations, to provide special emergency aid to those isthmus countries which had particular food security problems.

27. Still in the context of the emergency Plan and as regards the particular problem of the repatriation of refugees and assistance for displaced persons, the Community stated its willingness to increase the aid it already grants to the region for this purpose. The Community and the countries of the isthmus agreed on the following criteria for Community assistance in this area: the additional effort would be aimed at contributing to the voluntary repatriation of refugee populations to their countries and the resettlement of displaced persons by facilitating their freely accepted return and resettlement, whether it be to their regions of origin or other regions, according to their wishes, if they can feasibly be satisfied. This process will be carried out with guarantees of the dignity and security of the populations concerned by agreement between the Governments involved and under the responsibility of specialized and recognized international organizations. Furthermore, resettlement of the refugee or displaced populations will be carried out within the framework of multi-year development programmes under economically and socially satisfactory conditions that also benefit the population already established in the receiving regions.

28. The Community also took note of the report by the Vice-President of Guatemala on behalf of the Vice-Presidents of the Central American countries on the progress made in ratifying the Treaty on the Central American Parliament and preparing the elections thereto, and took note of the request for financial aid for holding elections to that Parliament in the five countries of the region. In this connection the Community confirmed the importance it attached to the setting up of a Central American Parliament elected by universal suffrage under conditions that guarantee respect for human rights, pluralist and participative democracy and peace in Central America. The countries of the isthmus expressed their gratitude to the Community for the support already given in co-operation with the European Parliament, which will enable them to benefit from valuable experience in the matter. They took note that the Community had declared its willingness, in close co-operation with the European Parliament, to make a specific contribution to the practical and technical organization of the elections.

DOCUMENT S/19692

Letter dated 26 March 1988 from the representative of Iraq to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Arabic*]
[*28 March 1988*]

On instructions from my Government and further to our repeated letters concerning the Iranian régime's continuing bombardment of purely residential neighbourhoods in Iraq, I have the honour to inform you that, on 24 and 25 March 1988, the forces of this régime carried out the acts of aggression set forth in the annex to this letter.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ismat KITTANI
Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations

ANNEX

Iranian bombardment

Time	*Place*	*Projectiles*	*Casualties and damage*
1. *From 0700 hours to 1730 hours on 24 March*			
0647 to 0701	Dohuk governorate: Ibrahim Khalil residential complex	1 warplane fired 2 missiles	A number of persons killed and wounded, including a number of women and children; damage to houses
1335 to 1630	Capital of Basra governorate: Al-Buradi'iyah, Al-Ma'qil, Al-Jumhuriyah, Dayr, Al-Junaynah, Al-Hakimiyah, Al-Jaza'ir, Qurnah district	47, including 24 launcher missiles	2 citizens killed; 2 children wounded; damage to a number of houses; destruction of 5 stores; 2 stores set on fire
1255 to 1523	Maysan governorate: Ali Al-Gharbi district	21	—
0100	Diyala governorate	20	—
2. *From 1730 hours on 24 March to 0700 hours on 25 March*			
1648 to 0220	Capital of Maysan governorate and Ali Al-Gharbi district	27	—
1700 to 1745	Sulaymaniyah governorate: Darbandikhan district	16	7 citizens killed, including 1 woman and 1 child; damage to 5 houses, 5 stores and 2 civilian vehicles
1700 to 2300	Diyala governorate: Khanaqin district	7	—
1700 to 2225	Wasit governorate: Badrah district	72	—
1845 to 2327	Capital of Basra governorate, extending to the following areas: Al-Ma'qil, Al-Junaynah, Al-Jubaylah, Al-Zahra, Al-Jumhuriyah, Al-Hakimiyah, Al-Sa'udiyah, Qurnah district, Harithah, Zubayr, Dayr subdistrict	272	12 citizens wounded, including 2 children; 1 house destroyed; damage to 3 houses; damage to Qurnah hospital and 1 preparatory school; 3 houses set on fire; damage to 10 civilian vehicles
3. *From 0700 hours to 1730 hours on 25 March*			
0815 to 1704	Capital of Basra governorate, extending to the following areas: Al-Ma'qil, Al-Ashshar, Al-Sa'udiyah, Al-Jaza'ir, Al-Abbasiyah, Al-Burayhah, Manawi Basha, Al-Mishraq, Harithah subdistrict, Qurnah district, Zubayr	100	1 woman killed; 16 citizens wounded, including 5 women and 1 child; damage to 7 houses and 11 stores; 1 mosque and 1 civilian vehicle set on fire
0810 to 1100	Wasit governorate: Badrah district	67	1 citizen wounded; damage to 6 houses

Time	*Place*	*Projectiles*	*Casualties and damage*
1305 to 1430	Sulaymaniyah governorate: Darbandikhan district	Raid by 2 aircraft, which fired 4 missiles; artillery bombardment	—
1035 to 1605	Maysan governorate: Ali al-Gharbi district	45	—

DOCUMENT S/19693

Letter dated 27 March 1988 from the representative of Iraq to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Arabic*]
[*28 March 1988*]

On instructions from my Government and further to our previous letters concerning the Iranian régime's continuation of its brutal acts against Iraqi civilian citizens, I have the honour to inform you that, on 25 and 26 March 1988, this régime carried out the acts of aggression against purely residential neighbourhoods in Iraq, as listed in the attached annex.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ismat KITTANI
Permanent Representative of Iraq
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Iranian bombardment

Time	*Place*	*Projectiles*	*Casualties and damage*
1710 to 2228	Capital of Basra governorate, Zubayr district, Qurnah, Dayr subdistrict	61	5 citizens killed, including 3 women, and 10 wounded, including 4 women and 2 children; damage to 1 mosque, 8 houses and stores
2220 to 0430	Capital of Maysan governorate, Majar district, Kahla', Musharrah subdistrict	48	2 citizens wounded
1500 to 1600	Sulaymaniyah governorate: Qala Diza district	—	1 citizen wounded
0700 to 1030	Capital of Basra governorate, Al-Ma'qil, Al-Ashshar, Al-Burayhah, Harithah subdistrict, Dayr subdistrict	12	6 citizens wounded; damage to 10 vehicles
0815 to 1100	Sulaymaniyah governorate: Darbandikhan district	12	—
0940 to 1517	Maysan governorate: Ali al-Gharbi district	48	—
0700 to 1200	Diyala governorate: town of Khanaqin	16	1 citizen killed; damage to 8 houses and 3 stores
0930 to 1215	Diyala governorate: Mandali district	21	Damage to 1 primary school
1445 to 1530	Wasit governorate: town of Badrah	—	Damage to 4 houses and 1 mosque

DOCUMENT S/19694*

Letter dated 28 March 1988 from the representative of China to the Secretary-General

[Original: Chinese]
[28 March 1988]

I have the honour to enclose herewith the text of the relevant excerpts from the document of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China issued in 1980 on the question of the Nansha Islands.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and the full text of its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) DING Yuanhong
Acting Permanent Representative of the People's Republic of China to the United Nations

ANNEX

Excerpts from the document of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China published on 30 January 1980 regarding the Nansha Islands

Foreword: The Xisha and Nansha Islands have been China's territory since ancient times. Before 1974, there were no differences between China and Viet Nam on this question. Since 1975, however, the Vietnamese authorities, reversing their earlier position of recognizing the Xisha and Nansha Islands as Chinese territory, have illegally occupied some islands of China's Nansha island group and laid a territorial claim to China's Xisha and Nansha Islands by revising maps and issuing diplomatic statements. Recently, the Vietnamese authorities have repeated their claims on many occasions. In order to help people better understand the truth, we are republishing hereunder the relevant excerpts of the document of the Chinese Foreign Ministry issued on 30 January 1980.

It must be pointed out that there used to be no dispute between China and Viet Nam over the ownership of the Xisha and Nansha Islands. During a long period of time, the Vietnamese side formally acknowledged these islands as being Chinese territory since ancient times, whether in their government statements and notes, or in their newspapers, periodicals, maps and textbooks.

On 15 June 1956, Vice-Foreign Minister Ung Van Khiem of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam received Li Zhimin, Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Chinese Embassy in Viet Nam, and stated to him that, "according to Vietnamese data, the Xisha and Nansha Islands are historically part of Chinese territory". Le Loc, Acting Director of the Asian Department of the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry, who was present, specifically cited Vietnamese data and pointed out that, "judging from history, these islands were already part of China at the time of the Song Dynasty".

In its declaration of 4 September 1958, the Government of the People's Republic of China proclaimed the breadth of the territorial sea of the People's Republic of China to be 12 nautical miles and stated explicitly that "this provision applies to all territories of the People's Republic of China, including . . . the Dongsha Islands, the Xisha Islands, the Zhongsha Islands, the Nansha Islands and all other islands belonging to China". On 6 September 1958, Nhan Dan, the central organ of the Vietnamese Worker's Party, prominently featured on its front page details of the Chinese Government's declaration. It wrote, "On 4 September 1958 the Government of the People's Republic of China issued a declaration on China's territorial sea. The declaration provides that the breadth of China's territorial sea is 12 nautical miles (over 22 kilometres). This provision applies to all territories of the People's Republic of China including the Chinese mainland and its coastal islands, as well as Taiwan and its surrounding islands, the Penghu Islands, the Dongsha Islands, the Xisha Islands, the Zhongsha Islands, the Nansha Islands and all other islands belonging to China which are separated from the mainland and its coastal islands by the high seas." On 14 September the same year, Premier Pham Van Dong of the Vietnamese Government solemnly stated in his note to Premier Zhou Enlai of the Chinese State Council that "the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam recognizes and supports the declaration of the Government of the People's Republic of China on China's territorial sea made on 4 September 1958," and that "the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam respects this decision". Pham Van Dong's note clearly shows that the Vietnamese Government acknowledged Xisha and Nansha Islands as China's territory.

In its statement of 9 May 1965 on the United States Government's designation of a "combat zone" for its forces in Viet Nam, the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam said that it was "a direct threat to the security of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and its neighbouring country" for "U.S. President Lyndon Johnson to designate the whole of Viet Nam and the adjacent waters which extend roughly 100 miles from the coast of Viet Nam and part of the territorial waters of the People's Republic of China in its Xisha Islands as a 'combat zone' of the U.S. armed forces". Here the Vietnamese Government once again clearly recognized the Xisha Islands as part of Chinese territory.

In reporting foreign intrusions into the Xisha Islands, the Vietnamese press also clearly recognized these islands as belonging to China. For example, on 13 May 1969, Nhan Dan reported that "on 10 May a U.S. military aircraft invaded China's air space over Yongxing Island and Dongdao Island of the Xisha Islands of China's Guangdong province". Many similar reports were carried in Vietnamese papers.

Official maps and textbooks of Viet Nam explicitly acknowledged the Xisha and Nansha Islands as China's territory. For example, the 1960 World Map made by the Mapping Section of the General Staff of the Vietnamese People's Army marks the Xisha and Nansha Islands by their Chinese names and notes in brackets that they belong to China. The May 1972 World Atlas published by the Bureau of Survey and Cartography Under the Office of the Premier of Viet Nam also marks the Xisha and Nansha Islands by their Chinese names. Another example, the lesson entitled "The People's Republic of China" in the geography textbook for school pupils of grade 9 published by Viet Nam's Educational Press in 1974 reads in part as follows: "The chain of islands from the Nansha and Xisha Islands to Hainan Island, Taiwan Island, the Penghu Islands and the Zhoushan Islands . . . is shaped like a bow and constitutes a Great Wall defending the China mainland."

The Vietnamese side in apparent seriousness stressed that in order to establish territorial sovereignty it is necessary to present "formal state materials" and "documents of legal force". What we have cited above are precisely Vietnamese "formal state materials" and "documents of legal force". This clearly shows that up to 1974 the Vietnamese Government had recognized the Xisha and Nansha Islands as Chinese territory. Now, the Vietnamese authorities have gone back on their own word and perfidiously departed from their original position of recognizing the Xisha and Nansha Islands as Chinese territory, and this is something absolutely impermissible under international law.

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/259-S/19694.

DOCUMENT S/19695

Letter dated 28 March 1988 from the representative of Iraq to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Arabic*]
[*28 March 1988*]

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter from Mr. Tariq Aziz, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq, dated 28 March 1988.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ismat KITTANI
Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations

LETTER DATED 28 MARCH 1988 FROM THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF IRAQ ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour, with reference to the statement made by the official spokesman of the United Nations on 25 March 1988, to express to you our feeling of bitterness and disappointment at the biased and ill-balanced nature of the above-mentioned statement.

You know well that Iraq has, from the beginning of the conflict, emphasized its full readiness to comply with the Charter of the United Nations, all the provisions of international law and all international conventions in order to arrive at a peaceful, just, comprehensive, honourable and lasting settlement. This position has taken concrete form in the acceptance of all the resolutions adopted by the Security Council, the most recent being resolution 598 (1987), and of all the appeals and resolutions emanating from the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and the Organization of the Islamic Conference and in Iraq's sincere and earnest co-operation with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).

As you well know, Iran has rejected the competence of the Security Council with regard to the conflict and has rejected all the resolutions adopted by the Security Council since 28 September 1980 and by the General Assembly and all the resolutions and appeals of the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the Non-Aligned Movement. The facts have proven that Iran does not believe in or adhere to the Charter of the United Nations, international law and international conventions, because they are contrary to the nature of its totally aberrant régime and contrary to its aggressive intentions and expansionist ambitions in respect of Iraq and the countries of the region. Iran describes the Charter of the United Nations and the provisions of international law and international conventions as the product of world arrogance. Numerous experiences have confirmed that, when Iran finds itself in a dilemma and discovers that this or that part of the Charter or of the provisions of international law or international conventions can meet one of its current needs, it resorts to calling for the application of that part only, to the exclusion of the others.

Iran began its aggression against Iraq in 1980 and has imposed the war on it for eight whole years; it has rejected and still rejects a peaceful settlement of the conflict.

During its war of aggression, the Iranian régime has committed every abomination from which civilized man recoils, in particular, the killing of prisoners, the severing of their limbs and their burial alive—even their murder in the prison pens. Iran expelled the ICRC for two years, from November 1984 to December 1986, and prevented it from discharging its functions of protecting Iraqi prisoners. Today, it is still hindering ICRC from discharging its functions under the Third Geneva Convention.[17] Tens of thousands of Iraqi prisoners are in need of protection under that Geneva Convention. The fate of more than 20,000 of them is entirely unknown, and they are not registered with ICRC, while 7,000 prisoners of those registered with ICRC have disappeared without trace. The Iraqi prisoners of war in Iran are still subjected to physical and psychological pressures to change their beliefs, and large numbers of them are forced to fight in the Iranian army against their own country, Iraq. Many prisoners have been killed while shackled with ropes after being captured at the battlefronts.

Iran has also committed other abominations, such as using children on the battlefield, and has engaged in terrorism and hostage-taking on the most extensive scale, using this as a means of blackmailing States. With regard to the establishment of facts and in reply to the campaign that speaks of Iraq's use of chemical weapons, we wish to reaffirm that Iran has used chemical weapons a number of times at the battlefronts and in the towns just as it used CS gas at the beginning of the war against our forces in the town of Muhammarah and has used it at the southern and northern fronts. Iran has flouted all the laws, customs and principles that govern relations between States and peoples and has violated them in ways and on a scale that are unprecedented in the contemporary world. These acts on the part of Iran are known and documented. They have been reported by international information media on the broadest scale, discussed in United Nations bodies and corroborated in ICRC reports. I have informed you of this in many letters. In spite of that, we have not encountered from you any prompt and active response for the exposure and criticism of any of these brutal and aggressive acts to match the promptness and zeal with which you are undertaking to meet the wishes of a brutal régime that flouts, first and foremost, the Organization of which you are the Secretary-General.

At the very moment that your statement was being issued, as you are well aware, Iran was, despite the unanimous adoption of Security Council resolution 598 (1987)—a resolution which is binding—pursuing its war and aggression against Iraq, firing missiles on Kuwait and violating all the principles of international law which are based on respect for the sovereignty of other countries and non-interference in their internal affairs. Following your latest appeal to the two countries to enter into negotiations on the implementation of resolution 598 (1987), Iran embarked upon a new invasion of Iraqi territory and occupied a town and other land inside Iraq, with the knowledge of the Security Council. I have brought all these facts to your attention in convincing letters, and these facts have been reported and confirmed in the international press. However, we note that, glossing over the invasion of our country by Iran, the acts of aggression committed by Iran against Arab countries, all the flagrant violations of international law by Iran, and Iran's scorn for the Organization which you represent and the resolutions adopted by it, you have concerned yourself once again with only one party to the conflict, just as Iran wants.

Since the adoption of Security Council resolution 598 (1987), I have addressed 10 letters to you, in which I informed you of the artillery bombardment and the missiles fired by Iran against Baghdad, Basra and other Iraqi towns,

and in which I reported to you the number of innocent civilians, including women and children, who were victims of these savage bombardments. None of this moved you to lift a finger or to express your disapproval. Similarly, none of the countries which today are making questionable statements about the existence of a war of the cities makes any mention of the fact that, in attacking Tehran, Iraq is merely responding in kind to the firing of missiles on Baghdad, which has gone on for several months, and more specifically to the most recent firing of missiles, on 29 February 1988. Thus, the pounding of Basra by Iranian artillery and the firing of missiles on Baghdad are apparently to be viewed as something normal, and only the bombardment of Tehran is to be considered part of the war of the cities! All these facts cast doubt on the credibility of your position and the position of certain countries.

One might well ask whether Iran, which has taken you in with its allegations and whose wishes you are fulfilling, is prepared to respect the principles of the Charter and all the provisions of international law and of all international conventions. If it is willing to do so, we are prepared, for our part, to sit down at the same table with Iran, under the auspices of the United Nations, to state that we are all bound by these principles and that we are all working for their implementation without exception.

If international humanitarian law and international conventions are your main concern, why is it that you are not concerned about the Third Geneva Convention concerning prisoners of war and at the fate of the tens of thousands of Iraqi prisoners?

We call upon you to dispatch a mission immediately to investigate the situation of Iraqi prisoners of war in Iran and the fate of the 20,000 of them who, in violation of the provisions of the Geneva Convention, have not been registered with the ICRC even though it has been several years since they were captured, and the fate of 7,000 others who, although registered with ICRC, have disappeared and about whom ICRC has no information. We also call upon you to investigate the atrocities to which the prisoners of war are being subjected (massacres, tortures, brainwashing to force them to renounce their beliefs and so on), which are corroborated in reports of the ICRC.

It has been nine months since the adoption of Security Council resolution 598 (1987), which is a binding resolution. Iraq has accepted the resolution, while Iran has failed formally and unequivocally to endorse it. However, the Secretariat and some members of the Security Council say nothing about this glaring reality and allow themselves to be taken in by Iran's tricks and manoeuvres. What is more, some of them are trying, either directly or indirectly, to alter the content of the Security Council resolution in order to please the barbarous and criminal Iranian régime, to encourage it to flout the Charter, the rules of international law and the principles governing relations between States, and to achieve narrow short-term objectives which are inimical to the cause of peace and security in the world. Do you not see that this kind of behaviour encourages countries not to respect the Organization which you represent and to violate the principles of the Charter and the rules of international law, especially since the Iranian régime, for which you and some members of the Security Council show so much concern, is among the countries which are most contemptuous of its rules and principles?

I wish to reaffirm that the Iraqi people—which has made an outstanding contribution to civilization and the development of human values, which for eight years has heroically defended its sovereignty and dignity and countless numbers of whose sons have been sacrificed in the struggle against a savage régime which, with each act of aggression, throws into the battle hundreds of thousands of barbarians who know only how to kill and destroy—our people, Mr. Secretary-General, will not stand idly by in the face of this situation and will not let these hordes occupy its territory and reduce it to slavery. The Iraqi people is therefore determined to use, in the exercise of its right of self-defence, which is an integral part of international law, all the means at its disposal to repulse the criminal invaders.

The purpose of the Charter of the United Nations, of international law and of international conventions is to protect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States and the right of peoples to live in freedom and dignity. It is therefore unacceptable for the Organization and the international community to favour a régime which deliberately and brazenly violates those very instruments, and endangers the sovereignty and security of a free people.

We are convinced that all justice-loving people in the world know that the responsibility for the aggravation of the situation in the region rests entirely with some members of the Security Council who are bent upon usurping the role of the Council and who continue to shirk their responsibilities under the Charter by refraining from stating the basic facts, drawing the obvious conclusions and taking against the Iranian régime, which continues to pursue the war with all its killing and destruction, the measures necessary to end the conflict and pave the way for a comprehensive and lasting peace.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Tariq AZIZ
Deputy Prime Minister
and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq

DOCUMENT S/19696

Letter dated 28 March 1988 from the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*28 March 1988*]

I have the honour to enclose herewith the text of the letter from Mr. Abdolkarim Moussavi Ardabili, Chief Justice of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

It would be highly appreciated if this letter and its annex were circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammad Ja'afar MAHALLATI
Acting Permanent Representative
of the Islamic Republic of Iran
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Letter from the Chief Justice of the Islamic Republic of Iran addressed to the Secretary-General

Although more than a week has elapsed since the crime of the Iraqi bombardment of the Kurdish areas in the north of Iraq, there has as yet been no serious step taken by the international organizations. This has occurred even though international organizations are the alleged supporters and executors of international law and the Iraqi crime has been committed in violation of many of the rules of international law and more particularly of the 1925 Geneva Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases.[18]

The ruling régime of Iraq, in the course of its chemical bombardment of the Iraqi town of Halabja, massacred more than 5,000 innocent and defenceless civilians and injured thousands of others. This has been the first time in the history of mankind that a Government has repeatedly and widely deployed chemical bombs against its own people in an act of genocide. The Iraqi régime has so far shown no commitment in practice to any of the international conventions to which it has been a signatory and has shown, by its most recent crime, its preparedness to commit the most anti-human acts. Under these circumstances, the silence of the international organizations and the irresponsible response of the Security Council of the United Nations have aroused the astonishment of all freedom-seekers of the world. The position of the international organizations is indeed unacceptable and in contravention of rules and norms of international law.

We sincerely thank you for having condemned the acts of the Iraqi régime and for having announced the dispatch of a United Nations specialist team to the Islamic Republic of Iran to investigate this catastrophe in all its dimensions. We also request that you take immediate measures in the direction of the legitimate punishment of the criminal and the termination of such attacks as well as the implementation of an arms embargo against the Iraqi régime and the banning of the manufacture of chemical and bacteriological weapons in the factories which are active in a number of Iraqi cities. It is evident that should the United Nations show its good will in confronting this crime, there will exist the possibility of seriously considering your suggested consultations. Otherwise, the party responsible for the failure of consultations will be Iraq; the very initiator of the war who becomes increasingly audacious in committing abhorrent crimes in the face of international silence.

(*Signed*) Abdolkarim MOUSSAVI ARDABILI
Chief Justice
of the Islamic Republic of Iran

DOCUMENT S/19697*

Letter dated 28 March 1988 from the representative of Botswana to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*28 March 1988*]

I have the honour to transmit to you the attached press release issued by my Government concerning another bomb explosion in the capital of my country, Gaborone, on 28 March 1988.

It is requested that this letter and its annex be circulated as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) David M. RENDOH
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission of Botswana
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Press release issued by the Office of the Presid... of Botswana on 28 March 1988

At about 0100 hours on 28 March 1988 a unit of the South African Defence Force attacked a house at Phiring in the Broadhurst area of Gaborone. Four people, a man and three women, were sleeping in the house at the time and were all killed. The man has been confirmed as a South African refugee. Two of the three women were Botswana nationals and the nationality of the third is still being ascertained. The identities of the four victims cannot be revealed until their next of kin have been informed.

It appears that several vehicles were used in the operation. One, a VW Combi bearing South African registration numbers MPH 494T, was found abandoned near the scene of the incident. The vehicle was immobilized by a tree stump as the attackers fled.

The Office of the President strongly condemns this dastardly attack and murder of innocent people in Botswana by the South African army.

The Office of the President once again reiterates Botswana's belief that South Africa's problems cannot be resolved by attacking neighbouring countries such as Botswana and strongly urges the South African Government to engage in meaningful negotiations with the genuine leadership of the oppressed majority in that country.

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/260-S/19697.

DOCUMENT S/19698*

Letter dated 25 March 1988 from the representative of Nicaragua to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Spanish*]
[*25 March 1988*]

I have the honour to transmit to you the text of a note which Mr. Miguel d'Escoto Brockmann, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Nicaragua, sent to Mr. Carlos López Contreras, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Honduras, on 23 March 1988.

I should be grateful if you would have this note circulated as an official document of the forty-second session of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Julio ICAZA GALLARD
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission of Nicaragua
to the United Nations

* Circulated under the double symbol A/42/946-S/19698.

ANNEX

Note dated 28 March 1988 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Nicaragua to the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Honduras

I am writing in reference to your note of 23 March [*S/19678, annex*], in which you ascribe responsibility for violations of Honduran territory on 22 March in Pico Español sector, El Paraíso department, and Bocay sector, Olancho department, to troops of the Sandinist People's Army.

The Government of Nicaragua categorically rejects such accusations. As you are aware, and as official spokesmen of your country and of the United States Government have acknowledged, Nicaraguan government troops have successfully concluded operations to drive the mercenary forces out of Nicaraguan territory and back to their bases in Honduras and are at this moment safeguarding the territorial integrity of Nicaragua.

It is a matter of concern to my Government that the false accusations levelled by the Government of Honduras coincide with the arrival in Nicaragua of the United Nations technical mission that has been dispatched to observe the situation in the border area. We nevertheless appreciate the communication received today by the Nicaraguan embassy in Tegucigalpa from civilian and military authorities, indicating that every effort will be made to help to guarantee the safety of the mission during its visit to the border sector of Bocay.

While reiterating our appeal to the Government of Honduras to grant access to the mission so that it can observe the situation on both sides of the frontier and ascertain the veracity of the accusations, we would point out that the outrage upon Honduran sovereignty has been committed by the United States Government by imposing the presence of mercenary forces on your country.

DOCUMENT S/19699*

Letter dated 28 March 1988 from the representative of Israel to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*28 March 1988*]

I have the honour to enclose a statement of the spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Israel, dated 25 March 1988, regarding the recent alarming use of chemical weapons in the Middle East.

I should be grateful if you have this letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Johanan BEIN
Acting Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations

ANNEX

Statement issued on 25 March 1988 by the spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Israel

We find Iraq's action this week most alarming. They must serve as a grave reminder of the readiness of certain countries in the Middle East to make use of chemical weapons, mercilessly slaughtering defenseless men, women and children.

These acts constitute a violation of the 1925 Geneva Protocol[19] banning chemical warfare. The Government of Israel has repeatedly voiced its concern (most recently at the forty-second General Assembly of the United Nations) regarding the growing proliferation of chemical devices in the region, particularly in Iraq, Iran and Syria.

Iraq has blatantly violated its commitments and obligations under the 1925 Geneva Protocol. Israel views this as a manifestation of the scorn with which some régimes in the region regard international agreements.

We view with acute dismay the silence of the international community in the face of atrocities committed against the ethnic minority of the Iraqi Kurds. It is instructive to note that to date this issue was not even mentioned at the meeting of the Organization of the Islamic Conference currently convened in Amman.

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/262-S/19699.

DOCUMENT S/19700

Letter dated 29 March 1988 from the representative of Tunisia to the President of the Security Council

[*Original: Arabic*]
[*29 March 1988*]

I have the honour, in my capacity as Chairman of the Group of Arab States for March, to request an urgent meeting of the Security Council to discuss the situation in the occupied Arab territories.

(*Signed*) Ahmed GHEZAL
Permanent Representative of Tunisia to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19701

Letter dated 29 March 1988 from the representative of Iraq to the Secretary-General

[Original: Arabic]
[29 March 1988]

On instructions from my Government, and further to our many previous letters concerning the Iranian régime's persistence in shelling purely residential districts in Iraq, I have the honour to inform you that on 26, 27, 28 and 29 March 1988, the forces of the Iranian régime committed the acts of aggression which are listed in the annex to this letter.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ismat KITTANI
Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations

ANNEX

Iranian bombardment

Time	*Place*	*Number of shells*	*Casualties and damage*
2100 to 0455	Capital of Basra governorate: Qurnah district	24	—
2330 to 0450	Maysan governorate: Al-Majar district, Qal'at Salih district, Kahla' district, Musharrah subdistrict	64	3 civilians killed and 3 wounded; damage to 1 house and 1 vehicle
1900 to 2000	Wasit governorate: Badrah district	7	—
0600 to 1300	Diyala governorate: Khanaqin district	25	1 woman wounded; damage to 4 houses
0315 to 1510	Capital of Basra governorate: Qurnah district and Al-Ma'qil district	39	1 civilian wounded; damage to 10 houses and 2 shops
0900 to 0930	Wasit governorate	13	—
1115 to 1700	Maysan governorate: Ali Al-Gharbi district	48	—
0400 to 1700	Capital of Basra governorate: Qurnah district and Dayr subdistrict	98	1 woman killed and 5 civilians wounded, including 3 children and 1 woman; 1 house destroyed and damage to 11 houses and a girls' secondary school
0800 to 1300	Wasit governorate: Badrah district	99	—
0930 to 1700	Maysan governorate: Ali Al-Gharbi district	41	—
0815 to 1030	Diyala governorate: Qazaniyah district, Khanaqin district	15	Damage to 10 houses and 1 house set on fire
1815 to 0146	Capital of Basra governorate: Al-Ma'qil, Al-Junaynah, Al-Kazarah, Al-Jaza'ir, Menfiyah/Al-Dakir, Qurnah district	119	4 civilians killed, including 2 children, and 7 wounded, including 4 women and 1 child; damage to 6 houses, 8 shops and 1 private vehicle

DOCUMENT S/19702

Letter dated 29 March 1988 from the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Secretary-General

[Original: English]
[29 March 1988]

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that at 1624 hours, on 28 March 1988, the criminal régime of Iraq attacked three residential areas

of the holy city of Qom by missiles, which have so far claimed the lives of eight civilians and injured 140 others. The missiles also greatly damaged five residential units as well as four automobiles.

In the morning of the same day, the cities of Dezful, Koohdasht, Boroujerd, Elameeaz and Ilam came under aerial bombardment of Iraqi warplanes. Three civilians have so far been reported martyred and 42 injured, and the Ilam city hospital was also hit. Updated statistics will be submitted when available.

It would be highly appreciated if this letter were circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammad Ja'afar MAHALLATI
Acting Permanent Representative
of the Islamic Republic of Iran
to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19703*

Letter dated 29 March 1988 from the representative of the Federal Republic of Germany to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English/French/Spanish*]
[*29 March 1988*]

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the English, French and Spanish texts of the statement on the 23 March 1988 cease-fire agreement of Sapoa, Nicaragua, made at Bonn on 28 March by the 12 States members of the European Community.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the forty-second session of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Alexander COUNT YORK
Permanent Representative
of the Federal Republic of Germany
to the United Nations

* Circulated under the double symbol A/42/947-S/19703.

ANNEX

Statement issued on 28 March 1988 by the 12 States members of the European Community

The Twelve note with satisfaction that the Government of Nicaragua and the Nicaraguan resistance have reached agreement on the basic provisions of a limited cease-fire. They welcome this truce accord as a positive step towards the achievement of peace and reconciliation within a pluralistic democracy in Nicaragua.

The process initiated by the Esquipulas agreeement of August 1987 [*S/19085, annex*] has thus entered into a decisive new phase. This represents an element of hope for the region as a whole.

In view of the problems that remain to be solved, the Twelve appeal to the parties concerned to do their utmost to convert the cease-fire agreement now reached into a stable structure of lasting peace and genuine democracy. The Twelve consider it essential that all countries with links to and interests in the region play a constructive part in achieving these aims.

DOCUMENT S/19707

Letter dated 30 March 1988 from the representative of Iraq to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Arabic*]
[*30 March 1988*]

On instructions from my Government, and further to the letter dated 14 March 1988 addressed to you by Mr. Tariq Aziz, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq [*see S/19618*], and to my letter contained in document S/19652, I have the honour to inform you that the aggressive, expansionist Iranian régime fired ground-to-ground missiles on Baghdad on 23, 24, 25 and 27 March 1988.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ismat KITTANI
Permanent Representative of Iraq
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Iranian bombardment

1. On 23 March 1988, at 0730 hours, a missile landed in a residential neighbourhood, killing several persons, including women and children, and damaging houses, shops, private vehicles and public property.

2. On 24 March at 1419 hours, a missile landed in a residential neighbourhood, killing 9 and wounding 59, including 24 women and 12 children, destroying 6 houses and damaging 20 others, and damaging 6 private vehicles.

3. On 25 March, at 2059 hours, a missile landed in a residential neighbourhood, killing 4 and wounding 9, and damaging 3 houses.

4. On 27 March, at 0747 hours, a missile landed in a residential neighbourhood, killing several civilians and wounding several others, including women and children, and destroying or damaging a number of houses, shops and other property.

DOCUMENT S/19708

Letter dated 30 March 1988 from the representative of Iraq to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Arabic*]
[*30 March 1988*]

On instructions from my Government, and further to our many previous letters concerning the Iranian régime's persistence in shelling purely residential districts in Iraq, I have the honour to inform you that on 27 and 28 March 1988 the forces of the Iranian régime committed the acts of aggression listed below.

Time	*Place*	*Number of shells*	*Casualties and damage*
1700 to 2315	Capital of Basra governorate: Al-Ma'qil Al-Harithah, Al-Muftiyah Abu Sunir, Dayr subdistrict, Qurnah district	36	—
1900 to 1940	Wasit governorate: Badrah district	18	—
0430 to 0505	Maysan governorate: Qal'at Salih district	16	—
1650 to 1746	Basra governorate: Qurnah and Zubayr districts	47	7 civilians killed, including 3 children, and 23 wounded, including 11 children; damage to several houses

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ismat KITTANI
Permanent Representative of Iraq
to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19709

Letter dated 30 March 1988 from the representative of Kuwait to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Arabic*]
[*30 March 1988*]

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you of the following.

On Wednesday, 30 March 1988, at 8.15 a.m., three Iranian gunboats made an incursion into Kuwaiti territorial waters. The gunboats came to within 600 metres of the northern coast of Bubian island and opened fire with submachine-guns and rocket-propelled grenades on military posts on the island. Two Kuwaiti military personnel were injured. Troops on patrol returned fire at the attacking boats, forcing them to retreat. A communiqué on the incident has been issued by the Ministry of Defence.

The Iranian Chargé d'affaires in Kuwait was summoned by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and presented with a strong protest and a demand for clarification and explanation of the act of aggression, which was carried out at a time when Kuwait was seeking to restore peace in the troubled region and to work with the international community to bring about a just settlement to the ruinous conflict between the two neighbouring Muslim countries, Iraq and Iran. This violation of Kuwait's security and sovereignty can only serve to increase tensions in the area and endanger peace and stability in the region.

Kuwait reserves the right to retaliate against any act of aggression against its territory or sovereignty.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammed A. ABULHASAN
Permanent Representative of Kuwait
to the United Nations

DOCUMENT S/19710*

Letter dated 30 March 1988 from the Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People to the Secretary-General

[*Original: French*]
[*30 March 1988*]

In my capacity as Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, I wish to express the Committee's most serious concern at the escalation of the campaign of repression and violence by Israel against the entire Palestinian population in the occupied Palestinian territories. Events since my letter of 1 March 1988 [*S/19562*] show that Israeli authorities have greatly intensified their punitive measures and extended them to many areas of life, including bans on supplies of food, fuel oil and petrol, day and overnight curfews, cutting of international telephone links, stringent curbs on internal and foreign travel, a partial ban on exports of produce, and other economic as well as financial sanctions. Live ammunition continued to be used widely against demonstrators, and thousands of Palestinians have been detained. The toll of Palestinians known to have been killed by Israeli gunfire, beatings and tear gas inhalation is at least 127 since the beginning of the uprising in early December. The most recent incidents are reported below.

On 27 and 28 March, *The New York Times* reported that at least 7 Palestinians were killed by gunfire and 8 others wounded in two days. During the week of 20 to 25 March, Reuters and UPI reported the deaths of 9 Palestinians by gunfire and the injuring of at least 43 others during clashes between demonstrators and the army. A week earlier 8 Palestinians were reportedly killed and 35 wounded by the army. According to an UNRWA press release on 18 March, another 165 were injured by beatings, including children aged 3 to 12.

According to *The New York Times* of 28 March, Mr. Yitzhak Rabin, Defence Minister of Israel, told the Cabinet that the number of Palestinians detained by the army had reached 4,000, but Palestinians and foreign relief workers estimate that the number is much higher. It was reported that some 2,000 Palestinians have been detained during the last ten days. According to a Reuters dispatch on 22 March, the detentions are part of stringent new measures announced by Mr. Rabin, which included an easing of the rules allowing for administrative detention without charges or trial, the outlawing of the Shabiba (youth) movement and allowing Israeli civilians to shoot at demonstrators who hurl firebombs.

In addition, the imposition of a variety of economic measures was also announced. The amount of money that Palestinians crossing into the West Bank from Jordan are allowed to bring in was reduced to one fifth of the amount previously permitted. Bank accounts of Palestinian welfare organizations would be scrutinized to ascertain where the money came from and how it was being spent.

Reuters reported that forms of economic pressure have also included, since 20 March, a ban on West Bank food supplies, an overnight curfew in the Gaza Strip, the cutting of international telephone links and limits on travel by Palestinians between the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. *The New York Times* reported on 28 March that, in Gaza, vegetable markets and pharmacies were closed by the army and that electricity was cut off to the Deir el-Balah refugee camp for the third day in a row.

In view of demonstrations planned to mark Land Day on 30 March, the Israeli army, according to a report in *The New York Times* of 29 March, has now declared the entire West Bank and Gaza Strip closed military zones for three days, banning journalists and prohibiting Palestinians from travelling between the occupied territories and Israel. The Gaza Strip has been placed under curfew for the duration, meaning that more than 650,000 Palestinians are confined to their homes.

In view of the gravity of the situation and the policies and practices of the Israeli authorities, the Committee wishes to reaffirm once again the applicability of the Fourth Geneva Convention of 12 August 1949[1] to the occupied Palestinian territories and to appeal to all concerned to do their utmost to ensure the safety and protection of the Palestinian people under occupation.

Further, the Committee is convinced that these repressive measures, which are aimed at preventing the Palestinian people from exercising its inalienable rights in accordance with internationally recognized principles and United Nations resolutions, pose grave obstacles to the attainment of a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the region. The Committee reiterates its view that positive action by the Security Council on its recommendations and on the convening of the International Peace Conference on the Middle East in accordance with General Assembly resolution 38/58 C of 13 December 1983 would advance prospects for a just and lasting settlement of the Palestinian question, and it reiterates its appeal for the intensification of efforts by all concerned to promote such a settlement.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Massamba SARRÉ
Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/264-S/19710.

DOCUMENT S/19711*

Letter dated 30 March 1988 from the representative of Lebanon to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Arabic*]
[*30 March 1988*]

On instructions from my Government and further to my previous letters, I have the honour to inform you of the following.

On Wednesday, 30 March 1988, at 8.30 a.m. (local time), a unit of the South Lebanese Army in the pay of Israel attacked Kfar Rummane, a town situated outside the "security zone" which is still occupied by Israel and its agents in Lebanese territory. This unit, composed of 150 men, was supported by eight tanks and other military hardware. The unit withdrew only after three hours, having subjected the town and the surrounding area, both before and after the operation, to pounding by heavy artillery, which killed five and wounded five others.

This criminal act to which this Lebanese town was subjected and which took a toll in dead and wounded, all of them Lebanese, is further proof, if any were needed, of the determination of Israel and its agents to continue to impose their presence through violence and to exacerbate tensions in southern Lebanon. Israel and its agents persist in flouting the Charter of the United Nations and international rules and norms by violating the sovereignty of a State Member of the United Nations, by subjecting the population to the harshest of punishments and by inflicting on it a heavy toll in human life and material destruction.

The Lebanese Government vehemently condemns this criminal act and appeals to you and to the Security Council to take the necessary steps to induce Israel to abide by Security Council resolutions calling for respect for the sovereignty, independence and integrity of Lebanese territories, and its total and unconditional withdrawal from Lebanese territory.

The Lebanese Government reserves the right to request the convening of a meeting of the Security Council at a time it deems fit.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Rachid FAKHOURY
Permanent Representative of Lebanon
to the United Nations

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/265-S/19711.

DOCUMENT S/19712*

Letter dated 30 March 1988 from the representative of Viet Nam to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*30 March 1988*]

Upon instructions from my Government and further to my previous letters, I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the note sent by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam on 26 March 1988 to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) NGUYEN BINH THANH
Acting Permanent Representative of Viet Nam
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Note dated 26 March 1988 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Viet Nam to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China

The Chinese side's rejection of talks to solve the territorial disputes between the two countries is contrary to what it said in the Chinese Foreign Ministry's note, to the effect that it advocates the peaceful solution of differences between nations, and is contrary to the aspiration of the two peoples, the trend for dialogue, and the Charter of the United Nations, under which China is a permanent member of the Security Council. That attitude of China is arousing concern among public opinion in the world and South-East Asia, more particularly among China's neighbours, about China's policy in this region.

In its reply dated 23 March [*S/19683, annex*], the Chinese side rejected the talks with the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam but did not reject the 17 March 1988 proposal of Viet Nam for mutual commitment not to use force to solve disputes. The Government of Viet Nam considers that the only correct way consonant with the fundamental interests of the two peoples is to solve the dispute between the two countries through peaceful negotiations. Therefore, the Vietnamese side will persist in its proposal put forth in its notes of 17 and 23 March [*S/19685, annex*] to the Chinese side.

While waiting for China to sit down at the negotiating table, Viet Nam proposes that the two sides refrain from the use of force to solve the dispute and avoid all clashes in order not to worsen the situation.

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/266-S/19712.

DOCUMENT S/19713*

Letter dated 30 March 1988 from the representative of Spain to the Secretary-General

[*Original: Spanish*]
[*30 March 1988*]

I have the honour to transmit herewith the communiqué issued today, 30 March, by the Office of Diplomatic Information of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Spain concerning the attack by South Africa on the capital of Botswana on 28 March.

I should be grateful if you would arrange for this letter and its annex to be circulated as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Francisco VILLAR
Permanent Representative of Spain
to the United Nations

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/267-S/19713.

ANNEX

Communiqué issued on 30 March 1988 by the Office of Diplomatic Information of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Spain

Spain strongly condemns the action carried out on Monday, 28 March, by South African military units against the capital of Botswana, Gaborone, which resulted in four deaths and for which South Africa's Ministry of Defence has publicly claimed responsibility. This new act of violence represents a serious breach of the norms of international law which protect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, and Spain therefore expresses its solidarity with Botswana and the front-line countries which have been the targets of such repeated acts of aggression.

In addition, Spain wishes once again to place on public record its concern at the spiral of violence in which South Africa is caught up and expresses in this connection its distress at the attacks perpetrated in several countries on individuals affiliated with the African National Congress.

DOCUMENT S/19714

Letter dated 30 March 1988 from the representative of South Africa to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*30 March 1988*]

I have the honour to refer to the incident, involving ANC terrorists and an element of the South African Defence Force, that took place on 28 March 1988 in Gaborone, Botswana.

I would make known that the background to this incident is the following:

(*a*) On Friday, 25 March 1988, contact was made on South African soil with a group of terrorists who infiltrated from Zambia and Zimbabwe via Botswana into the Western Transvaal border area.

(*b*) During this contact, two terrorists were killed and one, who subsequently died, was wounded.

(*c*) It was established that this group of terrorists was a reconnaissance group for a larger group which was to infiltrate South Africa at a later date.

(*d*) From sketches found in possession of the reconnaissance group it was clear that they intended to lay mines in the border area and execute stand-off attacks on farmhouses, similar to the recent attacks on a farmhouse in the Messina area in Northern Transvaal.

(*e*) Intelligence gathered also identified the location of the other group in Botswana. This intelligence was confirmed, whereafter an attack was launched by a South African Defence Force contingent on 28 March to prevent planned terrorist infiltrations and attacks in South Africa from materializing.

(*f*) During this attack key ANC personnel were eliminated, as well as an infiltration co-ordinator. Also during the attack and exchange of fire, ammunition stored in the dwelling was ignited, causing a subsequent fire in the house concerned.

(*g*) I am enclosing a copy of a statement issued by South African Army headquarters on 28 March, providing some background to these incidents, including military equipment captured.

(*h*) Apart from the above-mentioned incidents, you will also be aware that four more ANC terrorists, who attempted to infiltrate into South Africa from Zimbabwe through the Republic of Venda, were eliminated in contact that took place on 28 March. Security forces recovered machine-guns, rocket launchers and a large quantity of ammunition in this incident.

To refer to ANC terrorists in neighbouring countries as "South African refugees", and "innocent people" who go about in peace, whilst these terrorists in fact plan and attempt to execute callous attacks against innocent civilians in South Africa—the Krugersdorp car bomb of 17 March 1988 providing the most recent example where they succeeded—is to make a mockery of truth and to ignore the observable facts at hand.

It should for instance be emphasized that the Botswana Government has on several occasions in the past rejected a South African proposal for a joint security mechanism to discuss and solve joint security matters.

The South African Government cannot allow the presence of and planning of attacks by ANC terrorists, who infiltrate from neighbouring countries, in order to sow their cowardly acts of terror against innocent civilians in South Africa.

I would request that this letter together with its annex be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) A. L. MANLEY
Permanent Representative of South Africa
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Statement issued by the South African Defence Force

South Africa Army Headquarters announced in Pretoria today that three ANC terrorists were killed by a patrol on the South African border with Botswana on Friday, 28 March 1988.

The incident occurred at about 12h00 on the farm Smaldale about 10 kms south of Batavia when a patrol made contact with a small group of terrorists. The group fled and about 40 minutes later contact was again made on the farm Stellenbosch. Three terrorists were shot dead in the contact.

A total of four AK-47 rifles, four Makarov pistols, four fully loaded AK-47 magazines, eight hand grenades and other equipment such as binoculars and compasses were captured.

Following up on intelligence gathered during Friday's operation, an element of the Defence Force killed four more terrorists in the suburb of Phiring on the northern outskirts of Gaborone early today.

This is further evidence that ANC terrorists, originating from Zambia and Zimbabwe, use Botswana as a transit route to infiltrate into South Africa.

DOCUMENT S/19715*

Letter dated 30 March 1988 from the representative of Japan to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*31 March 1988*]

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a statement issued on 30 March 1988 by the spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan regarding the recent use of chemical weapons in the Iran-Iraq conflict.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have this text circulated as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Hideo KAGAMI
Permanent Representative of Japan
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Statement issued on 30 March 1988 by the spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan

1. There is strong reason to suspect that chemical weapons were used recently by Iraq in the Iran-Iraq conflict. The Government of Japan holds that such use of chemical weapons is in violation of the Geneva Protocol of 1925[19] and is extremely deplorable. The United Nations investigation teams confirmed in March 1984, March 1986 and May 1987 that chemical weapons had been used in the Iran-Iraq conflict. In view of these reports the Government of Japan has strongly urged that such weapons should never be used.

2. The Government of Japan strongly hopes that Iran and Iraq will take constructive attitudes in their consultations with the Secretary-General of the United Nations in his efforts to secure the implementation of Security Council resolution 598 (1987), with a view to achieving an early and comprehensive settlement of the Iran-Iraq conflict so as to bring this tragic situation to an end as soon as possible.

3. As the Islamic Republic of Iran has recently made a request to all States Members of the United Nations for co-operation in the medical treatment and relief of the victims of chemical weapons, the Government of Japan is now studying, from a humanitarian point of view, the kind of co-operation it can offer.

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/268-S/19715.

DOCUMENT S/19716*

Letter dated 29 March 1988 from the representative of Pakistan to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*31 March 1988*]

Further to my letter of 10 March 1988 [*S/19607*], I have the honour to report to you the following incidents in violation of Pakistan territory from the Afghanistan side, which occurred on 23 March 1988.

At 0858 hours 10 Afghan fighter aircraft violated Pakistan airspace by approximately 5 kilometres and dropped 20 bombs in the Domandai area in the Chanab Sector (Baluchistan). As a result, two persons (Pakistan nationals) were killed.

At 1650 hours, Afghan armed forces fired five rounds of artillery, which landed in an area approximately 5 kilometres south of Ghakhai (Bajaur Agency). As a result, two persons were killed and one injured (all Pakistan nationals).

The Afghan Chargé d'affaires was called to the Foreign Office on the morning of 29 March, and a strong protest was lodged with him over the unprovoked attacks. He was asked to inform the authorities at Kabul that if such attacks did not cease the entire responsibility for the serious consequences would rest on them.

I request you to have this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) S. Shah NAWAZ
Permanent Representative of Pakistan
to the United Nations

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/269-S/19716.

DOCUMENT S/19717*

Letter dated 29 March 1988 from the representative of Pakistan to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*31 March 1988*]

I have the honour to inform you that the Government of Pakistan has rejected the protest made by the Kabul authorities on 21 March 1988, in which it was alleged that on 17 March, at 1525 hours, three MI-17 helicopters of the Afghan armed forces, while flying from Barikot to Faizabad, were fired at near Bregmatal by one F-16 aircraft of the Pakistan air force with a rocket.

The Government of Pakistan has also rejected the protest made by the Kabul authorities on 27 March, at 1100 hours, in which it was alleged that on 19 March two jet aircraft of the Afghan air force, while flying near Torkham, were fired at by anti-aircraft guns of Pakistan armed forces located at Gharbagh, 3 kilometres south-east of Torkham.

The Afghan Chargé d'affaires at Islamabad was summoned to the Foreign Office on 29 March, and informed that the allegations had been investigated and were found to be baseless. Accordingly, Pakistan's rejection of the Afghan protests was conveyed to the Chargé d'affaires, and he was asked to inform his authorities that they should desist from making such fictitious allegations.

I request to have this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) S. Shah NAWAZ
Permanent Representative of Pakistan
to the United Nations

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/270-S/19717.

DOCUMENT S/19718*

Letter dated 31 March 1988 from the representative of Botswana to the Secretary-General

[*Original: English*]
[*31 March 1988*]

I have the honour to transmit to you the attached press release issued by my Government concerning the bomb explosion that took place in the capital of my country, Gaborone, on 28 March 1988.

It is requested that the present letter and its annex be circulated as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) David M. RENDOH
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission of Botswana
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Press release issued by the Government of Botswana

The Office of the President has now released the names of three of the four victims of the South African Defence Force raid on Gaborone on Monday. Efforts are still being made to establish the identity of the fourth victim, who is now also believed to be a citizen of Botswana. The names of the three victims are:

1. Miss Thanki Seokamo of Lobatse, who was a teacher at Boribamo Primary School at Molepolole;

2. Mrs. Masego Ikgopoleng of Mahalapye, who was an employee of the Botswana Book Centre in Gaborone;

3. Mr. Charles Mokoena, a South African refugee who came to Botswana in 1979.

Press inquiries have been received alleging a fifth occupant who is said to have escaped from the Phiring House that was attacked by a unit of the South African Army. The Botswana Government has no knowledge of any fifth person who escaped the raid. It is highly unlikely that anyone could have survived such a vicious attack involving the use of firearms and incendiary devices.

The Office of the President wishes to express its deep sorrow and sincere condolences to the bereaved families. The untimely death of the victims once more demonstrates South Africa's aggressive intentions against Botswana contrary to repeated denials by the South African authorities.

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/271-S/19718.

DOCUMENT S/19719*

Report of the Secretary-General

[*Original: Arabic/English*]
[*31 March 1988*]

1. The present report is submitted in accordance with General Assembly resolution 42/66 D of 2 December 1987 on the question of convening an international peace conference on the Middle East. The operative part of the resolution reads as follows:

"*The General Assembly,*

". . .

"1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General [*S/18849 and S/19249*];

* Circulated under the double symbol A/43/272-S/19719.

"2. *Notes with satisfaction* the ever-increasing international consensus in favour of the early convening of the International Peace Conference on the Middle East, as reflected in the statements made during the debate;

"3. *Determines once again* that the question of Palestine is the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict in the Middle East;

"4. *Reaffirms once again* its endorsement of the call for convening the Conference in conformity with the provisions of resolution 38/58 C, particularly the guidelines and participation determined therein;

"5. *Reiterates its endorsement* of the call for setting up a preparatory committee, within the framework of the Security Council, with the participation of the permanent members of the Council, to take the necessary action to convene the Conference;

"6. *Stresses once again* the urgent need for additional concrete and constructive efforts by all Governments in order to convene the Conference without further delay;

"7. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Security Council, to continue his efforts with a view to convening the Conference and to report thereon to the General Assembly not later than 31 March 1988;

"8. *Decides* to consider at its forty-third session the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the present resolution."

2. On 10 March 1988, the Secretary-General, in pursuance of the request contained in paragraph 7 of the above resolution, addressed the following letter to the President of the Security Council:

"I have the honour to refer to resolution 42/66 D, which was adopted by the General Assembly on 2 December 1987, concerning the question of the convening of the International Peace Conference on the Middle East in conformity with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 38/58 C. The text of the resolution 42/66 D is enclosed.

"As you are aware, this question was first raised at the General Assembly's thirty-eighth session, when resolution 38/58 C was adopted, and has since been the subject of annual resolutions by the Assembly and of annual reports by the Secretary-General, following consultation with the Security Council.

"Paragraph 7 of resolution 42/66 D requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Security Council, to continue his efforts with a view to convening the Conference and to report thereon to the General Assembly not later than 31 March 1988.

"My own consultations with the parties and with others concerned suggest that the obstacles that have so far prevented the convening of the International Peace Conference envisaged by resolution 38/58 C continue to exist. However, I again feel it essential to consult the Security Council, through its President, before preparing my report to the General Assembly. I should accordingly be grateful, Mr. President, if the views of the members of the Council on the convening of the International Peace Conference on the Middle East in conformity with resolution 38/58 C could be conveyed to me by 25 March."

3. On 25 March the President of the Security Council sent the following reply:

"I have the honour to refer to your letter of 10 March 1988 concerning the question of the convening of the International Peace Conference on the Middle East by which you sought to consult the Security Council on this question once again, taking into account the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolution 42/66 D of 2 December 1987.

"In accordance with your desire to be informed by 25 March of the views of the members of the Security Council on this question, I have undertaken the necessary consultations in this regard.

"The members of the Security Council are deeply concerned at the lack of substantive progress in the solution of the crisis in the Middle East, which is one of the most serious sources of instability in the world.

"The consultations that I carried out have shown that the members of the Security Council are convinced that the latest developments in the Middle East, particularly the situation in the occupied territories, call for urgent action to resolve the underlying problem through a comprehensive, just and lasting settlement, including a solution to the Palestinian problem in all its aspects.

"In this connection, all members of the Security Council are in agreement that it is desirable to convene an international conference on the Middle East.

"Almost all members of the Security Council declared their support for an early convening of a substantive international conference under the auspices of the United Nations, with participation of all parties concerned and of the five permanent members of the Security Council. They expressed readiness to make all efforts to help overcome remaining obstacles to the convening of such a conference.

"Most of those members reiterated their support for General Assembly resolution 38/58 C, in which it is, *inter alia*, stated that one of the main objectives of such a conference should be the attainment by the Palestinian people of its legitimate inalienable rights, including the right to return, the right to self-determination and the right to establish its own independent State in Palestine. They stressed that the Palestine Liberation Organization should have the status of a full-fledged participant in this conference.

"Some members, however, while expressing continuing reservations concerning resolution 38/58 C as a basis for an international conference, reaffirmed the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination, with all that this implies, as well as the right to existence and to security of all States in the region, including Israel.

"One member of the Security Council was of the opinion that it is not possible to make progress nor to find a peaceful solution to the problem on the basis of resolution 38/58 C, which it regards as one-sided and unbalanced. That member pointed to a peace initiative currently under way that would involve an international conference convened by the Secretary-General of the United Nations. That conference would include permanent members of the Security Council, as well as Israel and its interested Arab neighbours. The member pointed out that such a conference should bring about prompt direct negotiations between Israel and its Arab neighbours and should not have the right to veto the results of direct negotiations or to impose solutions.

"All but one member of the Council invite the Secretary-General to continue his efforts and consultations on the subject in connection with General Assembly resolution 42/66 D."

4. On 9 March the Secretary-General addressed a note verbale to the Permanent Representatives of Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic, and to the Permanent Observer of the Palestine Liberation Organization. The note drew attention to the report requested of the

Secretary-General in General Assembly resolution 42/66 D and asked for an up-to-date statement concerning their respective positions on the convening of the International Peace Conference on the Middle East in conformity with resolution 38/58 C. Their replies are reproduced below.

Egypt

"The Permanent Mission of the Arab Republic of Egypt . . . with reference to the Secretary-General's note dated 9 March 1988 concerning the convening of the International Peace Conference on the Middle East, has the honour to inform him that the Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt supports the implementation of resolutions 42/66 D and 38/58 C concerning the convening of such a conference and expresses the hope that the Secretary-General of the United Nations will continue to intensify his efforts towards the implementation of these two resolutions."

Israel

"In reference to the Secretary-General's note of 9 March 1988 regarding General Assembly resolution 42/66 D adopted on 2 December 1987, Israel voted against this resolution and those mentioned in the first preambular paragraph thereof.

"Israel has consistently objected to these General Assembly resolutions, as the International Conference proposed in resolution 38/58 C clearly contradicts the principle of direct negotiations between Israel and its neighbours and Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973), which are not even mentioned therein.

"In this context, it is pointed out that Israel does not recognize the 'PLO' as a partner to peace negotiations, particularly in view of that organization's declared negation of the State of Israel.

"In addition, Israel objects to the proposal of a preparatory committee with the participation of the permanent members of the Security Council, which would have any authority to determine the agenda and procedure of negotiations between Israel and its neighbours and convene a conference that could impose solutions.

"The objection of Israel to the International Conference proposed in resolution 42/66 D and its preceding resolutions does not contradict Israel's desire to conduct direct negotiations with its neighbours within an international framework agreeable to the sides involved in those direct negotiations."

Jordan

"The Permanent Representative of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan . . . with reference to the note dated 9 March 1988 concerning the convening of the International Conference, has the honour to inform him that the position of the Jordanian Government on this matter is as follows:

"Jordan supports the convening of an international peace conference on the Middle East under the auspices of the United Nations, and at the invitation of the Secretary-General, with the participation of the five permanent members of the Security Council and the parties concerned, including the Palestine Liberation Organization.

"This Conference should be convened on the basis of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973) and the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people."

Lebanon

"With reference to your note dated 9 March 1988 and further to my letter issued as an official document under symbol A/39/275-S/16584 of 25 May 1984, I have the honour to confirm below the official position of principle of the Lebanese Government concerning the convening of an international peace conference on the Middle East:

"*First.* Lebanon approves the principle of convening the International Peace Conference on the Middle East to find a just, comprehensive and lasting solution to the question of the Middle East, as called for in the relevant United Nations resolutions. Lebanon is prepared to participate in the above-mentioned Conference, as it informed you officially on 24 May 1984 (see above-mentioned document).

"*Second.* This does not mean that Lebanon approves the linking of the solution of its case to the solution of the question of the Middle East, because it believes that its case requires separate and urgent treatment in view of its persistence and its destructive impact on Lebanon's political, economic and social structure, as was stated in the address by Prime Minister Rashid Karami in the United Nations General Assembly on 5 October 1984.

"*Third.* Lebanon's consent to participate in the International Conference stems from the fact that it is a State concerned with the Arab-Israeli conflict and the fact that there are more than half a million Palestinian refugees in its territory, whose fate will be determined at the above-mentioned Conference, and from a desire to participate in the discussion of issues that it considers to be of direct or indirect concern to it.

"*Fourth.* In this regard, Lebanon confirms its rejection of the idea of settling the Palestinians in its territory. Its support for the right of peoples to self-determination calls, from the outset, for recognition of the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and to the establishment of its own State on its own land, as called for by the resolutions of the General Assembly on this subject.

"*Fifth.* Lebanon does not consider that a regional problem (a territorial problem with any State whatsoever) is open to discussion or negotiation. Its boundaries are fixed and internationally recognized, and it adheres firmly to its right to full sovereignty and independence.

"The question of Israeli occupation and the Israeli practices in the south should be dealt with from the angle of the implementation of the will of the international community as represented in Security Council resolutions 425 (1978), 508 (1982) and 509 (1982), which demanded that Israel withdraw fully and unconditionally from Lebanese territory, that the United Nations forces be enabled to discharge their mandate fully and be deployed to the internationally recognized boundaries, that international peace and security be established, and that assistance be rendered to the Government in exercising its right to extend its authority and sovereignty over its territory and consequently, transform the south into a region of peace and security.

"*Sixth.* Lebanon reaffirms its commitment to the 1949 armistice agreement, which is still in force, as confirmed in successive relevant resolutions of the Security Council (and which remains in force until such time as it is replaced by another text and a just, comprehensive and lasting solution is found to the Arab-Israeli conflict)."

Syrian Arab Republic

". . . I have the honour to transmit a reply to your note dated 9 March 1988 concerning the question of convening an international conference on the Middle East, as follows:

"The Syrian Arab Republic supported General Assembly resolution 38/58 C on the convening of an international conference, as indicated in its letter dated 20 August 1984 addressed to you and distributed in document

A/39/416-S/16708, and has supported General Assembly resolutions, the most recent being resolutions 42/66 D of 2 December 1987 and 42/209 A of 11 December 1987.

"The Syrian Arab Republic once again reaffirms the need to continue efforts in favour of convening the International Conference, with the participation of all the parties to the conflict, including the Palestine Liberation Organization and the permanent members of the Security Council, provided that the Conference is effective and has competence, and that it does not provide a cover for partial, piecemeal agreements, with a view to achieving a just and comprehensive peace based on the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and its resolutions relating to the Arab-Israeli conflict, and on the basis of:

"(*a*) Achievement of a complete Israeli withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories, including Jerusalem;

"(*b*) Guarantee of the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian Arab people, including the right to return to its homeland, the right to self-determination and the right to establish its own independent and sovereign State in its national territory."

Palestine Liberation Organization

"With reference to your note dated 9 March 1988 concerning the praiseworthy efforts to convene the International Peace Conference on the Middle East, I have the honour to communicate to you the position of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

"Since the adoption by the United Nations General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session of resolution 38/58 C, the PLO has manifested its full readiness to participate effectively and constructively in efforts aimed at establishing a just peace in the Middle East based on international legality as reflected in United Nations resolutions.

"Since the adoption of that resolution by the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session, the PLO has been in constant touch with the Secretariat and with the States that support the establishment of peace in the Middle East with a view to moving the political process towards the convening of the International Conference. Mr. Yasser Arafat, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization and commander-in-chief of the forces of the Palestinian revolution, in international forums and on international occasions has repeatedly reaffirmed the PLO's support for and adherence to the resolution on the convening of the International Peace Conference on the Middle East. The most recent occasion at which the support of the PLO for such a step was declared was at the United Nations Office at Geneva, at which Mr. Arafat spoke before the Commission on Human Rights on 19 February 1988.

"The PLO reaffirms that it seeks the convening of an effective international peace conference on the Middle East under United Nations auspices and with the participation of the five permanent members of the Security Council and all the Parties concerned, including the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, on an equal footing with the other parties, with a view to the realization of the national rights of the Palestinian people, including the right to return, the right to self-determination and the right to establish its own independent State, with Jerusalem as its capital.

"In the view of the PLO, international legality provides a sound political basis for such a conference: in other words, United Nations resolutions on the question of Palestine as an indivisible whole, comprising resolutions of the General Assembly and of the Security Council, including Security Council resolutions 242 (1967), 338 (1973) and 605 (1987).

"In the context of the discussions concerning the International Peace Conference on the Middle East, we should draw attention to what is taking place in the occupied Palestinian territories and to the position that the PLO requested that the United Nations adopt, namely, the protection of our people by the United Nations from the campaigns of savage repression unleashed by the Israeli occupation forces against them in the West Bank, the Gaza Strip and East Jerusalem. We also wish to point out that the PLO requested that, in the light of what is happening and of the crimes being perpetrated against our people, the West Bank, the Gaza Strip and East Jerusalem be placed under the aegis of the United Nations for a short transitional period and that the Israeli forces be withdrawn from all occupied Palestinian and Arab territories, including Arab Jerusalem (we refer here to Security Council resolution 605 (1987)), until our people are enabled, during that period and under United Nations supervision, to achieve self-determination. These two steps are essential for the protection of our people, so as to create a suitable climate for the International Conference, which will lay the foundations for a just and lasting peace in the region, in accordance with international legality and the resolutions of the United Nations."

5. It is again clear from the communications set out above that sufficient agreement does not exist, either amongst the parties directly concerned or within the Security Council, to permit the convening of the International Peace Conference on the Middle East as called for in resolution 42/66 D. Meanwhile, the recent and continuing events in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip have dramatically highlighted the urgent need for the negotiation, in a manner acceptable to all the parties directly concerned, of a comprehensive, just and lasting settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict. The Secretary-General's views about the basis of such a settlement and about how it should be negotiated remain those expressed in the closing paragraphs of the report he submitted to the Security Council on 21 January 1988 [*S/19443*] in accordance with Security Council resolution 605 (1987).

[1] Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949 (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75. No. 973).

[2] The complete text of the speech, not reproduced in the present *Supplement*, may be consulted in the files of the Secretariat.

[3] General Assembly resolution 217 A (III).

[4] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-second Session. Supplement No. 13* (A/42/13).

[5] *The Holy Koran*, II: 250 and 251.

[6] The 150 signatures are not reproduced in the present *Supplement* and may be consulted in the files of the Secretariat.

[7] See Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, *The Hague Conventions and Declarations of 1899 and 1907* (New York, Oxford University Press, 1915).

[8] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970-973.

[9] The photographs and map are not reproduced in the present *Supplement* and may be consulted in the files of the Secretariat.

[10] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 704, No. 10106.

[11] Ibid., vol. 974, No. 14118.

[12] The Referral is not reproduced in the present *Supplement* and may be consulted in the files of the Secretariat.

[13] The list is not reproduced in the present *Supplement* and may be consulted in the files of the Secretariat.

[14] International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and International Covenant and Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex).

[15] Treaty concerning the Permanent Neutrality and Operation of the Panama Canal (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1161, No. 18342); and Panama Canal Treaty (ibid., vol. 1280, No. 21086).

[16] The photographs are not reproduced in the present *Supplement* and may be consulted in the files of the Secretariat.

[17] Geneva Convention relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War, of 12 August 1949 (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 972).

[18] Agreement between the United Nations and the United States of America regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations (see General Assembly resolution 169 (II)).

[19] Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare, signed at Geneva on 17 June 1925 (League of Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. XCIV (1929), No. 2138).

[20] The article is not reproduced in the present *Supplement* and may be consulted in the files of the Secretariat.

[21] A/40/1078, annex I.

[22] Ian Brownlie, ed., *Basic Documents on Human Rights*, 3rd edition (Oxford, Clarendon Press, 1992), pp. 488 ff.

[23] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1144, No. 17955.

[24] TD/351, part one, sect. I.

جنـــوب لبنـــان

黎巴嫩南部 • SOUTHERN LEBANON

LIBAN MÉRIDIONAL

ЮЖНЫЙ ЛИВАН • LÍBANO MERIDIONAL

وزع قوة الامم المتحدة المؤقتة في لبنان
اعتبارا من كانون الثاني/يناير ١٩٨٨

1988年1月联黎部队部署情况

UNIFIL DEPLOYMENT AS OF JANUARY 1988

DÉPLOIEMENT DE LA FINUL AU MOIS DE JANVIER 1988

ДИСЛОКАЦИЯ ВСООНЛ НА ЯНВАРЬ 1988 ГОДА

DESPLIEGUE DE LA FPNUL EN ENERO DE 1988

مركز مراقبة
瞭望所
Observation post
Poste d'observation
Наблюдательный пункт
Puesto de observación

نقطة تفتيش
哨查站
Check point
Point de contrôle
Контрольный пункт
Puesto de control

قاعدة
基地
Base
Base
База
Base

موقع مؤقت
临时阵地
Temporary position
Position temporaire
Временная позиция
Posición provisional

حدود مناطق عمليات قوة الامم المتحدة المؤقتة في لبنان
联黎部队行动地区界限西边和北边
UNIFIL Operational boundaries, West and North
Limite de la zone d'opérations de la Force à l'ouest et au nord
Оперативные рубежи ВСООНЛ. Запад и Север
Límites de las zonas de operaciones de la Fuerza, Oeste y Norte

الحدود الفاصلة بين كتائب قوة الامم المتحدة المؤقتة في لبنان
联黎部队各营之间界限
UNIFIL Inter Battalion boundaries
Limites des secteurs des différents bataillons de la Force
Разделительные линии между районами расположения батальонов ВСООНЛ
Límites entre batallones de la Fuerza

وحدة لبنانية
黎巴嫩单位
Lebanese Unit
Unité libanaise
Ливанские подразделения
Unidad libanesa

موقع لقوات الدفاع الاسرائيلية و/أو "جيش جنوب لبنان"
以色列国防军和(或)"南黎巴嫩军"阵地
Israeli Defence Forces and/or "South Lebanon Army" Position
Position des Forces de défense israéliennes et/ou de "l'armée du Liban du Sud"
Позиция израильских сил обороны и/или "южноливанской армии"
Posición de la Fuerza de Defensa de Israel y/o del "Ejército del Líbano meridional"

المساحة التقريبية لما يقع تحت السيطرة الاسرائيلية من منطقة عمل قوة الامم المتحدة المؤقتة في لبنان
联黎部队行动地区内在以色列控制下地区概况
Approximate area under Israel control in UNIFIL area of operation
Périmètre approximatif de la zone sous contrôle israélien dans la zone d'opérations de la FINUL
Примерный район в зоне действия ВСООНЛ, находящийся под контролем Израиля
Area aproximada bajo control israelí dentro de la zona de operaciones de la Fuerza

MAP NO. 3000 REV. 23 UNITED NATIONS
JANUARY 1988

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